



# City of Blaine Anoka County, Minnesota Minutes

10801 Town Square Drive  
Blaine, MN 55449

## Park Advisory Board

*The Mayor has signed a declaration allowing members of the council, staff, and the public to attend the meeting remotely via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*Public comment options prior to the meeting must be received by noon on Tuesday, January 26. Email comments to: [nmonahan@BlaineMN.gov](mailto:nmonahan@BlaineMN.gov) or phone 763-785-6151.*

*Zoom is for members of the public who want to comment remotely during the meeting on an agenda item. Join Zoom Webinar at <https://blainemn.zoom.us/j/94854924550>. Ways to watch if not commenting on an agenda item: [BlaineMN.gov/Video](https://blainemn.gov/Video) or North Metro TV on Comcast, Apple TV, or Roku. Questions? Email - [Communications@BlaineMN.gov](mailto:Communications@BlaineMN.gov)*

*Park Board Members: Chair Jeffrey Bird, Prad Das, Jeff Lester, Tonya Lizakowski, Rex Markle, Kristofer Paulseth and Tom Walsdorf*

*The purpose of the park board is to provide a high quality of life for the city's residents through protection of its natural resources, its scenic, historical and aesthetic values, and by development of compatible facilities for public enjoyment. One of the board's functions as an advisory body is to hold public meetings and make recommendations to the city council. For each item, the board will receive reports prepared by city staff, provide the opportunity for public response, conduct board discussions and make recommendations. The city council, however, makes all final decisions on these matters.*

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Tuesday, October 27, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### 1. Call To Order

The Blaine Park Advisory Board met in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this hybrid meeting was held both virtually and in person.

### 2. Roll Call

Staff Present: Nate Monahan, Recreation Manager.

Guest: None.

**Present:** 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Walsdorf, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

**3. Approval of Minutes****3.-1****APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2020 PARK  
BOARD MINUTES**

**Attachments:**     [09-22-20 PK](#)

Boardmember Markle requested the following corrections:

Page 2 the motion at the bottom of the page should be amended to reflect the Park Dedication fees had a 0% increase for residential, commercial and industrial properties.

**Motion by Boardmember Walsdorf to approve the minutes of September 22, 2020 as amended. Motion seconded by Boardmember Das. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Walsdorf, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

**4. Open Forum for Citizen Input**

Chair Bird opened the Open Forum at 7:07 p.m.

No one appeared to address the Commission.

Chair Bird closed Open Forum at 7:08 p.m.

**5. New Business****5.-1****RECOMMENDATION OF THE 2021 - 2025 CAPITAL  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR PARK DEVELOPMENT  
FUNDS**

**Attachments:**     2021 - 2025 Park Development CIP

Recreation Manager Monahan stated the City maintains a five-year capital improvement plan for park development funds. The capital improvement plan is a flexible plan based upon long-range physical planning and financial projections. Flexibility is achieved through an annual review and revisions as necessary. All improvements listed in the plan are proposed and first go to the Park Board for review and then, if recommended by the Park Board, onto the City Council for approval. The City Council makes all final decisions on capital improvements.

Mr. Monahan explained revenue for the parks capital improvement plan comes from park dedication fees required of all new residential (\$4,449/unit), commercial (\$8,704/acre), and industrial (\$6,702/acre) development. The residential fee is split with 65% going to the parks CIP and 35% of the fee going to the open space and trails CIP. All commercial and industrial fees go to parks. Revenue from park dedication fees can only be used for development of new parks and trails, for new improvements to community parks used by all residents and for improvements to neighborhood parks that serve new growth. The fees cannot be used for park maintenance. Park Dedication Fee Revenue has been reviewed by the Community Development Department based on latest city development projects. Staff reviewed the park improvements that would be completed in the next five years and recommended approval of the 2021-2025 CIP.

Boardmember Markle asked if the City would be increasing the footprint on the shelters at Aquatore Park. Mr. Monahan explained staff was comfortable with the current footprint. He noted the concrete pads were in pristine condition. He indicated the City was looking to add a new section for footings. He stated the new shelters would be similar to the one at Lakeside Commons Park.

Boardmember Das questioned how much the splash pad would cost. Mr. Monahan discussed the cost of the existing water features that were installed in 2009. He explained these features were made of plastic and wood, and have since been replaced with stainless steel.

Boardmember Das requested further information on what features would be included in the future splash pad. Mr. Monahan discussed how splash pad features were installed and noted the Park Board would review this matter further prior to being approved by the City Council.

Boardmember Das asked for additional information on the proposed bandshell. Mr. Monahan reported the Blaine Festival Committee has donated \$150,000 to the City for a bandshell to be installed at Aquatore Park. He discussed how this open air bandshell could be used for outdoor concerts.

Boardmember Markle stated he like seeing the significant positive balance at the end of this CIP.

**Motion by Boardmember Markle to recommend the City Council approve the 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Plan for Park Development. Motion seconded by Boardmember Lizakowski.**

**A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Walsdorf, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

5.-2

## **RECOMMENDATION OF THE 2021 - 2025 PARK AND TRAIL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**Attachments:** 2021 - 2025 Park and Trail CIP

Mr. Monahan stated a panel of City Staff including the City Manager, Finance Director, Public Works Director and Parks and Recreation staff have reviewed the Five-Year Parks and Trails (CIP) for the City's Parks Fund and is recommending the following components in the attached budget plan. Staff is seeking the Park Board's recommendation to bring forward to the City Council for approval and formal adoption of the 2021-25 Parks and Trails CIP. The Park and Trail Capital Improvement Fund is used for ongoing improvements and replacement of existing capital assets related to the City's parks and trails. The primary funding source for this fund is a general tax levy (\$350,000 for 2021). Additional revenue comes from billboard property leases (\$150,000) which the City Council approved as a funding source in December 2019. Staff commented further on the projects that were included in the Park and Trail CIP and recommended approval.

Adjunct Member Brown asked if the sports tiles would be installed over the pavement. Mr. Monahan reported this was the case.

Boardmember Das stated he was excited to see all of the great projects that were included in the CIP. He commented on solar light technology and encouraged staff to look into using solar lights on the City's ballfields. Mr. Monahan stated he would look into this further and would report back to the Board.

**Motion by Boardmember Das to recommend the City Council approve the 2021-2025 Park and Trail Capital Improvement Plan. Motion seconded by Boardmember Paulseth.**

**A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Das, Commissioner Markle, Commissioner Walsdorf, Commissioner Lizakowski, and Commissioner Paulseth

5.-3

## **PARK BOARD UPDATES**

Mr. Monahan provided the following updates:

- Upon the recommendation from the Park Board Town Square Park has been renamed to Tom Ryan Park and the Aquatore Dog Park has been renamed to Swanson Dog Park. Renaming events would be held on Monday, December 21st from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- The Purple Heart Monument was placed last week at the Veteran's Memorial at Tom Ryan Park.
- Aquatore Park Zip Track has been installed.
- President Park Playground Replacement has been completed.
- Van Buren Playground is scheduled to be installed on October 30.
- New shelter will be constructed soon at the entrance of Lakeside Commons Park for City parking lot attendant.
- The Sunnyside Park parking lot was completed

Chair Bird explained he had a resident request a skateboard park in Blaine. He indicated this request would be further considered by the Board in 2021.

### **Adjournment**

Boardmember Lizakowski motioned to adjourn. Boardmember Das seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved unanimously.

Chair Bird adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.