



# City of Blaine Anoka County, Minnesota Minutes

10801 Town Square Drive  
Blaine, MN 55449

## Park Advisory Board

*Park Board Members: Chair Jeff Lester, Chris Ford, Tonya Lizakowski, Hellen Keraka, Kristofer Paulseth, Kjrj Reyerson, 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, May 24, 2022

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, May 24, 2022.

Chair Lester called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

### 2. Roll Call

Members Present: Boardmembers Ford, Keraka, Lizakowski, Paulseth, and Walsdorf and Chair Lester. Adjunct Member Isabel Hobot.

Members Absent: Boardmember Ryerson.

Staff Present: Nate Monahan, Recreation Manager

Guest: None.

**Present:** 5 - Chair Bird, Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Paulseth, Commissioner Keraka, and Commissioner Walsdorf

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Reyerson

### 3. Approval of Minutes

#### 3.-1

#### Approval of the April 26, 2022, Park Board Minutes

Attachments: [04-26-22 PK.doc](#)

**Motion by Boardmember Walsdorf to approve the minutes of April 26, 2022 as amended. Motion seconded by Boardmember Paulseth. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Aye:** 5 - Bird, Lester, Paulseth, Commissioner Keraka, and Commissioner Walsdorf

#### **4. Open Forum for Citizen Input**

Chair Lester opened the Open Forum at 7:02PM.

No one appeared to address the Commission.

Chair Lester closed Open Forum at 7:03PM.

#### **5. New Business**

##### **5.-1**

##### **Park Updates**

Mr. Monahan provided the Board with an update on the following matters:

Sunrise Ponds Trail - The project has started and will be about  $\frac{3}{4}$  completed this summer. The developer of Lexington Waters has to add a culvert under the trail, and it won't arrive until early fall. The rest of the trail will be completed late fall or early spring of 2023. This trail will connect to the new Sunrise Pond Park.

Happy Acres Parking Lot - Bid is over budget and will need to be discussed with the Council at a future City Council workshop meeting.

Blaine Wetland Sanctuary Shelter - WSB and Associates and HCM Architects have been working with staff on the Blaine Wetland Sanctuary Shelter and Restroom project. The architect has made adjustments to the plan and added additional parking at the site. Staff brought the project to the NRCB and they would like to put this project on pause in order to pursue a building, versus a pavilion. The focus now would be on trails within the BWS.

Aquatore Band shell update - staff and the festival committee presented to the council at a workshop on May 2. ISG is changing a couple of aspects of the design to see if it will result in a cost savings. Staff will present the revised concept and cost estimate to the Park Board and City Council in July.

Community Garden - The Community Garden officially opened

Friday, May 13. Staff thanked all of the volunteers that made this garden possible. It was noted all plots within the community garden were full.

The beach officially opens Tuesday, May 31.

Chair Lester asked if the majority of the beachgoers were from Blaine. Mr. Monahan estimated 70% of the beach visitors were residents of Blaine and the remainder were from Ham Lake, Coon Rapids, Lino Lakes and Andover.

Tom Ryan Park Pavilion and the Beach house were painted last Friday.

Blaine Festival - The Blaine Festival will be held from June 24 to June 26. The festival is held at Aquatore park. There is food, live music, rides and other family activities. The parade is Saturday, June 25 at noon. The parade route is Jefferson Street from 117th to Territorial Road.

Staff will be adding new windscreens at the Lexington Athletic complex courts along with resurfacing the basketball and tennis/pickleball courts. Staff noted volunteers would be assisting staff with the project.

Eastside Park will receive a new shelter in late summer or early fall. The site has been determined with Flagship Recreation.

The June Park Tour will be Tuesday, June 28. Staff needs three to four parks you would like to visit for the tour.

Boardmember Paulseth suggested Deacon's Park be visited.

Boardmember Keraka recommended Territorial Park be toured.

Mr. Monahan suggested Aquatore Park be visited in order to allow the members to see the new park shelters.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Lester adjourned the meeting at 7:32PM.

**Boardmember Ford motioned to adjourn. Boardmember Paulseth seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.**