



**MINUTES
PARK BOARD MEETING
January 24, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Torney at 5:35 pm.

Present: Chairperson: Brian Torney; Members: Bob Hardin, Michelle Jerde, and Mike Sadler

Staff Present: Public Works Director: Marv Wurzer

Others Present: Council Liaison: Donny Chillstrom

Absent: Member: Jane Morrison

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approve Agenda

No objections were made to the agenda as presented.

Approve Minutes of December 13, 2011 Park Board Meeting

A motion was made by Hardin, seconded by Jerde, to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2011 Park Board meeting as presented. Ayes: all.

Discuss Recommendation to City Council – Park Board Chair and Secretary

Appointments

A motion was made by Hardin, seconded by Sadler, to recommend the City Council appoint Brian Torney to the position of Park Board Chair, and Mike Sadler to the position of Park Board Secretary. Ayes: all.

Receive Future Park Board Meeting Schedule

Staff distributed copies of a proposed Park Board meeting schedule for the year 2012.

A motion was made by Hardin, seconded by Sadler, to approve the 2012 Park Board meeting schedule. Ayes: all.

It was noted that members Sadler and Morrison would be absent for the March 27 meeting, and member Jerde would be unable to attend the May 22 meeting.

Discuss Work/Project Goals for 2012 and Identify Long Range CIP Projects

Council Liaison Donny Chillstrom opened the discussion with suggesting a joint session with the City Council to talk and learn about rain gardens. He suggested inviting the person from Minneapolis who started their project to come in and speak with the Board regarding starting this type of project. The Board expressed interest in identifying a few sites that would benefit from a rain garden project such as absorbing the runoff at Martha Lane, or near the trail by the Fire Station.

Continue Discussion of Trail Connection from Holbrook Park to Willow Drive Through Orono Owned Property

Council Liaison Donny Chillstrom opened the discussion and said that he talked with Orono's City Administrator Jessica Loftus, and Mayor Lili McMillan, who felt that their Council members would be on board. However, this topic would need to be discussed as an agenda item at an Orono Council meeting. Staff also needs to look further at potential City funding opportunities for the trail project.

Review of Park and Trail Signage

The Board agrees the subject of signage warrants further exploration and discussion. It was decided that everyone will look at current signage and possibly other park's signage and provide feedback and recommendations. Board members agreed to bring ideas to the April meeting.

Discuss 2010 Mn/DNR Tree Survey of Long Lake and Proposed Grant to Communities for Planting in Advance of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

A few suggestions were made for where plantings could be used. Hardin recommended planting spruce trees in front of sound wall by Hardin Park on the south side of the train and river birches in Nelson Lakeside Park. The Board noted that there is not much time to prepare since the application would need to be submitted by February 17, 2012.

Public Works Director Wurzer indicated he would distribute the grant application to Board members for their review. A Park Board meeting could be called for February 6 beginning at 5:30 pm if a planting plan and application process were to proceed.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Torney adjourned the meeting at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Sadler
Park Board Secretary