

APPROVED MINUTES
WYOMING PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF WYOMING, MINNESOTA
MAY 10, 2021
7:00PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Spangler called the Regular Meeting of the Wyoming Park Advisory Commission for May 10, 2021 to order at 7:00PM

CALL OF ROLL:

On a Call of the Roll the following members of the Wyoming Park Advisory Commission were present: Members Barb Williams, Bruce Spangler, Heather Vandenheuvel, TJ Malaskee, and Claire Luger, Council Liaison

Absent: NONE

Also Present: Kelly Dumais, Assistant City Administrator

Visitors: None

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM:

Chair Spangler determined a Quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

OPEN FORUM: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY MEMBER MALASKEE, TO APPROVE THE PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 5, 2021 MEETING.

Member Williams noted that she thinks the motion maker for item #2 under New Business is incorrect and Member Buccanero was listed as absent, but she no longer serves on the PAC.

Assistant City Administrator Dumais noted that she will review the recording to see who made the motion and make the changes to the minutes.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY MEMBER SPANGLER, TO APPROVE THE PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 5, 2021 MEETING, AS AMENDED.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Aye: Spangler, Williams, Malaskee, and Vandenheuvel

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Lion's Park Community Clean-Up Project

Deb Ashby gave an overview of recent Lion's Club discussions about a possible clean-up project at Lion's Park. She stated that their club is quite small, so they would like to try to team up with the City or other groups, such as the Boy Scouts or a local church group on the project together.

Assistant City Administrator Dumais shared some history on partnerships that the City has supported and encouraged in the past. She noted that, to date, the City has not fully participated as a partner in this type of project.

Chair Spangler stated that he would like the City to at least share this project on social media to see if there are any other organizations that can work together with the Lions' Club.

Member Malaskee stated that he would support that Park Advisory Commission be present during this event as partners in the clean-up as workers, but also to use it as an opportunity to meet the community members.

Assistant City Administrator Dumais suggested forming a subcommittee to work on details such as selecting a date for the event.

Chair Spangler and Member Malaskee volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

The Commission discussed possible dates for the event.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER SPANGLER, SECONDED BY MEMBER MALASKEE TO CREATE A SUBCOMMITTEE TO WORK WITH THE LIONS' CLUB ON COORDINATING A CLEAN-UP EVENT AT LIONS' PARK.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Aye: Spangler, Williams, Malaskee, and Vandenheuevel

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Deb Ashby stated the Lions' Club had been hoping to donate a bike rack or a bench for the Veteran's Memorial project, but haven't been able to do any fund raising over the last year due to COVID.

Assistant City Administrator Dumais stated that she will reach out to her after the meeting to discuss options.

2. Consider Applications for Park Advisory Commission seat

Assistant City Administrator Dumais explained that there are two people interested in filling the vacant Park Advisory Commission seat.

Lindsey Hobson, gave an overview of her background, experience, and interest in serving on the PAC.

Jessica Bergen, gave an overview of her background, experience, and interest in serving on the PAC.

Ms. Hobson and Ms. Bergen answered questions from the Commission.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER SPANGLER, SECONDED BY MEMBER VANDENHEUVEL TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL APPOINT JESSICA BERGEN TO SERVE ON THE PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Aye: Spangler, Williams, and Vandenheuevel

Voting Nay: Malaskee

Abstain: None

Mayor Iverson stated that she feels there will be lots of opportunities coming up for Lindsey Hobson to serve in some other capacity in the city.

3. Arbor Day/Sustainability Potential Initiative

Assistant City Administrator Dumais stated that one of the proposed initiatives during goal setting was some sort of Arbor Day celebration or event for next fall. She asked if there was still interest from the PAC and if so, she would suggest putting together a subcommittee to work on details of the event.

Member Malaskee asked why the City would do an Arbor Day event during the fall when Arbor Day itself is in the spring and if there was a budget for this event.

Assistant City Administrator Dumais stated that the original rationale was related to uncertainty with the COVID restrictions situation and that it would be more likely that a group could gather in the fall rather than early spring. She explained that there is not a budget for this event, but noted that depending on what the subcommittee decides they are some funds for planting trees around the City and could work with Public Works to see what opportunities there may be.

There was discussion about focusing the efforts on next April rather than something in the fall. There was consensus to table discussion on this event until later in the year.

Member Malaskee asked if there was already an Arbor Day subcommittee.

Assistant City Administrator Dumais explained that the Park Advisory Commission currently serves as the Tree Board, but there is not a subcommittee for the Arbor Day event.

Member Malaskee suggested that the PAC form a subcommittee now because that may give time and opportunity to look at grant opportunities to assist with funding for an event next year.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER MALASKEE, SECONDED BY MEMBER VANDENHEUVEL TO FORM AN ARBOR DAY SUBCOMMITTEE.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Aye: Spangler, Williams, Malaskee, and Vandenheuvel

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Member Vandenheuvel and Member Malaskee volunteered to serve on the subcommittee. Member Williams noted that she is also willing to serve, if needed.

OLD BUSINESS:

4. Resilient Communities Project Discussion

Assistant City Administrator Dumais gave a brief overview of how the Resilient Communities program through the University of Minnesota works. She stated that the last time the PAC discussed this they expressed interest in looking at developing a proposal that would serve seniors, and ways to support recreation, aging in place, and accessibility to the City's park system. She explained that included in the packet were 4 reports on similar initiatives from other communities that have partnered with the University of Minnesota through the Resilient Communities project.

The Commission discussed options for working with the University of Minnesota on this project and identified a potential theme for a Resilient Communities project. There was a consensus to consider seniors, accessibility, including becoming a dementia friendly community.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER SPANGLER, SECONDED BY MEMBER MALASKEE, TO DIRECT STAFF TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF WORKING WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM TO LOOK AT WAYS TO MAKE CITY PARKS MORE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL AGES, WITH SPECIAL INTEREST IN LOOKING AT WAYS TO INCORPORATE DEMENTIA FRIENDLY PROGRAMS.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Aye: Spangler, Williams, Malaskee, and Vandenheuvel

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

COMMUNICATIONS:

5. Railroad Park Project Update

Assistant City Administrator Dumais showed a video that gave an update on the hopes and plans for Railroad Park. She stated that over \$200,000 has been raised from community donations which have been extremely generous. She stated that they staff is working on a tool for the website for individuals interested in donating and are also looking into the logistics of a "Buy a Brick" program

ADJOURN

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MEMBER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY MEMBER MALASKEE, TO ADJOURN THE MAY 10, 2021 MEETING OF THE WYOMING, PARK ADVISORY COMMISSION AT 7:51 PM

Voting Aye: Spangler, Williams, and Vandenheuvel

Voting Nay: Malaskee

Abstain: None

NEXT MEETING:
JUNE 7, 2021
7:00PM