

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kodada called the meeting of the City of Lonsdale Park and Recreation Advisory Commission to order at 6:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, 415 Central Street West.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jeanette Utecht, Kevin Kodada, and Maria Kowalski

Members Absent: Micki Ziskovsky and Laura Carpentier

City Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, Public Works Director Joe Dornfeld, Community Development Planner Cory Hinz-Ibarra

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kodada asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda. A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Kowalski to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, and Kowalski. Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kodada asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the Minutes. A motion was made by Kowalski and seconded by Utecht to approve the Minutes from the June 12, 2023 Meeting, the July 17, 2023 Meeting, and the August 21, 2023 Meeting. Vote for: Kowalski, Utecht, and Kodada. Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS

None

8. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

None

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Introduction of Community Development Planner Cory Hinz-Ibarra
Erickson introduced the new Community Development Planner Cory Hinz-Ibarra. The Park and Recreation Advisory Commission welcomed Cory Hinz-Ibarra to the City of Lonsdale.

- b. Update on the 2024 Parks Department Budget
Erickson presented an overview of the 2024 Parks Department Budget and upcoming projects. Erickson said he incorporated \$8,000 for new park benches, \$150,000 for 2024 trail improvements, and \$307,000 for capital outlay projects: disc golf, pickleball courts and DRS grandstand ADA ramp. Kodada inquired about lights and security camera(s) at the skate park. Dornfeld said he will bring back cost estimates for the skate park lights and security camera at a future meeting.

- c. Discuss Location of Pickleball Court/Ice Rink
Erickson presented an overview of the existing pickleball courts at Trcka Park and future expansion options within the City's Park system. Erickson said Jaycee Park and Trenda Memorial Park are potential locations for the new six pickleball courts. Dornfeld gave an overview of the benefits and challenges for both locations. Erickson said City Staff have received preliminary engineer cost estimates for both park locations and preferred Jaycee Park due to existing utilities connections, parking, and hockey rink footprint. Kodada said that due to the preliminary cost of the project a phase approach may be recommended. Dornfeld requested a motion to begin minor site preparation at Jaycee Park which focused on the removal of the existing hockey rink boards.

A motion was made by Kowalski and seconded by Utecht for Jaycee Park hockey rink boards to be removed. Vote for: Kodada, Kowalski, and Utecht. Vote against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

City Staff will evaluate the preliminary engineer site costs and make further recommendations at a future Board Meeting.

- d. Discuss Disc Golf Project
Erickson presented estimated costs of the disc golf project that could be potentially constructed at Kalina Park or the potential site at the northeast corner of Idaho St. and CSAH 4 intersection. Erickson said that based on amenities, such as parking, playground equipment, restroom, etc. available at Kalina Park, it is the preferred location by City Staff. Erickson said that minor land acquisition or easement would need to occur to complete the course layout and that he would reach out to the property owner. Kodada said Kalina Park is a good area for disc

golf and to look at other site locations this winter. Kodada said that City Staff should host a public meeting if Kalina Park is the proposed site for disc golf.

e. Discuss Improvement for the Dog Park

Erickson said that Minnesota Millworks and Fixtures (MMF) is possibly expanding and constructing a second building north of the dog park. Erickson said that part of the MMF expansion will include additional parking which will require the City to realign the dog park access. Erickson said MMF informed City Staff that they are interested in finding a solution that is beneficial to both parties. Erickson said that City Staff will clearly delineate the access this fall. Erickson said that City Staff are looking into extra lighting for the dog park area.

f. Discuss Fencing at Bastyr Park

Erickson said staff are recommending removal of the playground fence at Bastyr Park due to its deteriorating condition and based upon the Building Inspector, the fence is not required. Kodada said it will be safer with the fence removed and is in support of having it removed. Utecht suggested using greenery for a future barrier. Erickson said City Staff will investigate alternatives and bring back solutions to a future meeting.

g. Discuss Trail Options at Industrial Dr SE / Sticha Park

Erickson said City Staff received an \$92,000 estimate to construct a trail on the south side of Industrial Dr SE to connect to Sticha Park. Erickson said the culvert will need to be extended to accommodate the trail which will require permitting by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Kodada said he likes the trail on the south side. Erickson said staff will follow up with an updated estimate and layout.

h. Discuss the Adopt-a-Bench Program

Erickson said the City has an Adopt-a-Bench program where residents and / or business can adopt a bench for variety of reasons. Erickson said that the Board should discuss if the costs to adopt a bench should be increased or not. Kodada said City Staff should keep in mind the increased bench costs and incorporate the adjustment into the City's 2024 Fee schedule adopted in January.

i. Discuss Cornhole Game

Erickson said that cornhole is a popular game and would be a nice additional amenity to the City's Park System that could be used by all age groups. Erickson said if the Board would like to install a permanent cornhole game, staff will provide location options and pricing at an upcoming meeting for installation in 2024. Kodada said the corner near the new skate park is a good idea.

- j. Discuss the Estimated Cost and Funding of Lights at DRS Field
Erickson said staff met with Musco Lighting and received an estimate of \$272,000 for new poles and lights at DRS Field. Erickson said funding has been previously discussed and how the City and the baseball teams need to contribute financially to the project. Erickson said it is a good idea to begin setting the groundwork, project timeline, and funding expectations. Kodada said the ACES should help with the funding. Erickson said he will reach out to the ACES to discuss the project.

- k. Discuss the Estimated Cost of Parking Lot Paving
Erickson said the costs and priority of paving gravel park parking lots have been discussed with the Board in the past. Erickson said that the staff has received paving cost estimates for Kalina Park, Sticha Park, and Trendera Memorial Park. Dornfeld said that the Kalina Park parking lot gets the most spinouts and then Trendera Memorial Park parking lot. Erickson said the Board should discuss the prioritization of paving the identified City Park gravel parking lots. Kodada said that City Staff should start plugging away with a plan and timeline.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Other Parks & Trails Project Updates
None

- b. Grants
None

Upcoming Meetings:
Monday, October 16, 2023 at 6:00 pm

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Kowalski to adjourn the meeting.
Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, and Kowalski; Against: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.
The meeting ended at 6:49 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator