

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
OCTOBER 9, 2018**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeanette Utecht, Micki Ziskovsky, Kevin Kodada, Laura Carpentier and Julie Ryan

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

City Planner Benjamin Baker

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kodada called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. AGENDA

Kodada asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda.

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Carpentier to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier and Ryan; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

3. MINUTES

Kodada asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the Minutes.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Ziskovsky to approve the Minutes from the September 11, 2018 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier and Ryan; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. Girl Scout Troop #44850 – Lonsdale Dog Park Improvements

Three members of Lonsdale Junior Girl Scout Troop #44850 addressed the Park Board from the front podium. They stated that they were working on their Bronze Award, which is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can achieve. The girls said that they would like to make some improvements to the Dog Park for their Bronze Award Project. They provided the following list of items to consider:

- Shade structure
- Water area cement pad or landscape timbers/pea rock
- Hose attachment for water pump
- Additional pet waste station
- A park bench
- Dog climbing/play structures
- Dog toys and toy storage
- Leash hooks near the entrance gate
- Signage
- Portable toilet

The Troop said that they would try to hold fundraisers, ask for donations, and potentially ask the High School shop class for help with their building projects. They said that they may be able to take on one of the items from the list with their own funds raised with cookie sales and Green Team funds.

They asked the Board if they had any suggestions, questions, or guidance. The Board members thanked the girls for their wonderful presentation and ideas. The Board stated that any of the items that they wanted to take on would be much appreciated. The Park Board members suggested working on: 1) the water pump area, 2) play amenities, and 3) directional/park signage. Kodada said that although there wasn't any money specifically assigned to the Dog Park for 2019, that the City has matched funds raised by organizations in the past.

Carin Rezac, 205 5th Avenue NE, stated that the Dog Park is the best thing in town. She agreed that all the suggestions made by the Girl Scout Troop would be beneficial to the Dog Park. She said that local Dog Park supporters may be willing to help fundraise for the improvement items. She suggested creating separate spaces for different size dogs and adding park lights around the site. Carpentier asked if the Public Works Department could place some sand around the perimeter edge of the pond, so that dogs don't have to get so muddy.

- b. Tri-City United Schools Community Education Director Mark Preissing
TCU Community Education Director Mark Preissing, provided a review of 2018 programming that took place in partnership with Three Rivers Park District and the City of Lonsdale. He talked about the summer recreation program and arts in the park. Preissing said that the Three Rivers activities, including: the Cedar Lake Park outing, archery, and geocaching, all helped drive new interest this year. He talked about other program initiatives like: pickleball, open gym, adult volleyball, Special Olympics/Friendship Ed-venture, and MN Twins baseball camp. Preissing discussed other programming ideas to consider in the future, such as: co-sponsored concerts in the park, summer arts/artist in the park, family fun nights, a large outdoor/indoor movie screen, and Czech Cinema and film festival. Preissing said that the new auditorium in Montgomery will hold a capacity of around 700 people, so he said that they are trying to see what kind of programming options may be available once that facility is completed next year. He also talked about a \$10,000 planning grant that they received for a Czech Heritage Walk-Bike Trail Feasibility Study for the cities of LeCenter, Montgomery, and Lonsdale. He invited everyone to attend the first planning session on October 24th. He noted that the grant is only for planning purposes and there is not enough money to construct any trail sections.

Preissing thanked Lonsdale for the great partnership with TCU Schools, and he stated that due to health reasons he will be retiring from his position at TCU. Utecht relayed some encouraging comments about Preissing's work during his time at TCU. The rest of the Board members thanked Preissing for striving towards quality community education and recreation programming in Lonsdale.

- c. Trcka Park Items:
Baker provided an update on the Trcka Park Project, including grading/drainage, water line/irrigation, fencing, landscaping/trees, and park signage. The Board reviewed updated pictures of the site and an improvement plan reference map, which showed completed, current, and future project items along with associated costs.

Fencing

The Board members reviewed two quotes from: 1) Caron Fence and 2) Dakota Unlimited for both galvanized and black coated chain link fencing at 4 ft. tall and 6 ft. tall, which ranged from \$15.68/ft. - \$24.49/ft. Kodada suggested going with the nicer looking black-coated fence for only \$1,000 more. The Park Board agreed to go with the low bid from Caron Fence for 4 ft. tall commercial-grade black-coated chain-link fence.

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ryan to approve a quote from Caron Fence for 4 ft. tall black chain-link fence in the amount of \$10,295.00. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier and Ryan; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

Trees

The Board reviewed a landscaping/tree-planting plan which showed proposed locations for 17 existing tree nursery trees and 15 contractor trees around the perimeter of the soccer fields. The Board reviewed pictures of the temporary tree nursery and a quote from Knecht's Nurseries in the amount of \$2,800, which included 2 Disease Resistant Elms, 2 Lindens, 2 Hackberry, 2 Celebration Maples, and 2 Crimson Sunset Maples. The Board decided to wait until the north side of the site was completely graded before planting any trees.

Park Signs

The Board reviewed cost estimates from Brushworks Signs for Trcka Park signs: 1) 1-Sided: \$2,475 and 2) 2-Sided: \$4,150. Baker noted that the Trcka Family has donated some money towards a park sign. The Board agreed that they should wait to see what the site looks like later this fall or next spring before determining a location for a park sign. They liked the idea of either placing a sign on the corner of Idaho & Main or at the entrance to each parking lot. Vlasak asked if the temporary development sign should be relocated closer to the Water Treatment Plant next year. The Board members agreed with that idea to promote the future hockey rink, playground, and park shelter/restrooms on the west side of the park.

- d. Consider Approval of a Boulevard Tree Planting Quote from Knechts – Fig Street
Baker stated that almost \$3,000 was generated by commercial building permits for trees in 2018. He said that Leif Knecht came up with a planting plan similar to 8th Avenue NE for the southern boulevard area along Fig Street NE. He said that the Board agreed at their September meeting that priority tree planting areas should be at/along: 1) Trcka Park, 2) Fig Street NE, and 3) 900 Idaho Street SW.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Utecht to approve a quote from Knechts Nurseries in the amount of \$1,780 for 10 Boulevard Trees to be Planted along Fig Street NE. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier and Ryan; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Ziskovsky, Kodada, Carpentier, and Ryan; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 6:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Benjamin Baker, City Planner