

Breezy Point Parks & Recreation Committee
Thursday, May 9, 2024 – 5:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Breezy Point Parks and Recreation Committee was called to order by Chair Gail Arne at 5:00 PM. In addition to Chair, members present included Megan Zierden, Bill Toft, Deanne Trottier, Jim McKellar, Diane Williams, and Kimberly Slipy. Staff present included Assistant City Administrator Daniel Eick, Public Works Supervisor Joe Zierden, and City Administrator David Chanski.

Assistant City Administrator Eick took Roll.

All present stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval/Amendment of the Agenda

Chair Arne requested the Committee present the Disc Golf Course Naming Contest award prior to Open Forum.

MOTION ZIERDEN/MCKELLAR TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE ABOVE-MENTIONED CHANGE, MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Disc Golf Course Naming Contest Winner

Chair Arne presented the Disc Golf Course Naming Contest award to the contest's winner.

Open Forum

Shane Humphrey presented an update to the Committee on the state of the Disc Golf Courses, as reflected by UDisc, and ongoing activities planned by the Breezy Point Disc Golf Club.

Committee Member Toft inquired if the Brainerd, MN Disc Golf Club and the Breezy Point Disc Golf Club play together. Mr. Humphrey clarified they do not officially, but people often play across the clubs as they see fit.

Jane Ahlstrom thanked the Committee for hosting the Master Planning Open House and encouraged the Committee to host additional Open Houses in the future.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION WILLIAMS/SLIPY TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING AS PROPOSED, MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Parks & Recreation Committee Workshop Discussion

Chair Arne explained the Committee had previously discussed finishing and prioritizing important items across the parks and mentioned a desire to host a meeting to further discuss said priorities.

The Committee agreed such a workshop could be helpful and scheduled a Parks and Recreation Committee Workshop immediately after their Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 13.

MOTION MCKELLAR/TOFT TO SCHEDULE A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE WORKSHOP FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 13, FROM 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM, MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Community Garden Ad Hoc Committee

Committee Member Williams explained she requested this item as the Committee had struggled in the past to plan and organize projects and noted her belief a separate Committee, made up of volunteers and residents, might be able to better plan the Community Garden than the Parks and Recreation Committee. Additionally, she raised questions regarding the continuing maintenance of the garden in the future.

Committee Member McKellar clarified some of those questions were answered in the original work plan but noted he would be fine with additional clarification from a specialty committee.

City Administrator Chanski briefly explained the functioning of an Ad Hoc Committee and noted the Committee would not have the authority to create a secondary Committee without Council approval. As such, he recommended the Committee specifically outline expectations and membership to transmit to the City Council and walked the Committee through said expectations.

Committee Member Toft noted he doesn't understand the need for such a Committee as the Parks and Recreation Committee already has volunteers, specifically Sandy Logelin, who could work with them to develop the Community Garden.

Committee Member Trottier noted she thought an Ad Hoc Committee could be helpful in the ongoing maintenance and review of the Community Garden as the Parks and Recreation Committee would not like to run and maintain the Garden themselves.

Committee Member McKellar requested clarification on whether this Committee would be limited to the creation of the Community Garden or if they would be a perpetual Committee. Administrator Chanski explained that decision is something the Committee should discuss.

Chair Arne noted, in her opinion, this discussion was putting the cart before the horse as much of this work has already been done and they need their current plan approved by the City Council. Administrator Chanski, given that statement, questioned the purpose of this Ad Hoc Committee.

Committee Member Williams clarified her preference the Ad Hoc Committee report directly to the City Council as she does not believe the Community Garden should be a Parks and Recreation Committee item. Committee Member Arne disagreed explaining she would prefer to send the recommendation as is for approval.

MOTION ZIERDEN/TOFT TO TABLE DISCUSSION ON THE AD HOC COMMITTEE UNTIL THE NEXT PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING, MOTION CARRIED 6-1 WITH COMMITTEE MEMBER WILLIAMS OPPOSING.

Community Garden Project Costs

Public Works Supervisor Joe Zierden delivered an update to the Committee on estimated costs and expected labor time to construct the Community Garden.

Committee Member Toft inquired if the project needed to be funded immediately as he felt the \$51,000 price tag was high for an up-front cost considering conversations regarding grants and funding. Public Works Supervisor Zierden explained the costs listed here were very firm and recommended if the cost needed to be scaled back it would be best to reduce the project. Additionally, Administrator Chanski explained the Committee could limit the budget by not fully funding the project until donations or grants were located.

Committee Member Zierden noted her concern that making the project half the size might not actually halve the cost. Additionally, she was concerned as costs rise over time there should be no reason to delay a project the Committee has been talking about for several years. Thus, she would prefer the Committee request the Council fund the project in full. Chair Arne agreed noting her preference to fund the project up front so it can be brought to completion regardless of grant potential.

Committee Member Slipy noted she would be willing to assist with the grant writing process if the Committee found themselves requiring assistance.

Committee Member Williams inquired if 6-foot fences would be sufficient to protect the garden from wild animals, particularly deer. Public Works Supervisor Zierden noted 8-foot fences could be constructed if the Committee would prefer. Administrator Chanski noted he would need to confer with Planning and Zoning Administrator, Peter Gansen, to ensure an 8-foot fence would be allowable by City Ordinance.

Finally, Administrator Chanski and Supervisor Zierden clarified the construction location of the Community Garden in relation to current park amenities and the City Hall property.

MOTION ZIERDEN/SLIPY TO APPROVE THE FULL BUDGET AS OUTLINED IN SUPERVISOR ZIERDEN'S PROPOSAL, APPROVE THE LOCATION AS OUTLINED IN THE MEETING, AND RECOMMEND A HIGHER FENCE, MOTION CARRIED 6-1 WITH COMMITTEE MEMBER TOFT OPPOSING.

Committee Member Zierden volunteered to present the item to the City Council on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Final Approval

Committee Member Williams noted the City Hall Park section needed to have Volleyball added. Additionally, she requested clarification on whether the Community Garden rules

could exclude firearms from use. Administrator Chanski clarified staff could update the section to state no firearms except as allowed by state statute.

MOTION MCKELLAR/ZIERDEN TO APPROVE THE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN WITH THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ALTERATIONS AND TRANSMIT TO COUNCIL FOR FINAL APPROVAL, MOTION CARRIED 6-0

Disc Golf Course Rules

Committee Member Toft noted his belief a set of rules for the recreation area may be helpful, especially if the City plans to move one of the kiosks to the location, so users could be made aware that inappropriate behavior may be fined and/or prosecuted.

Chair Arne noted she planned to present a list of rules to the Committee during this meeting and asked the Committee if there were any additions to the rules as written. Committee Member Toft claimed he would like to see the courses closed for play during the winter months.

Shane Humphrey noted most courses, in his experience, stay open year-round but also explained this year experienced heightened play due to the warmer weather. Additionally, the Committee debated the logistics of removing the baskets from the course and storing them throughout the winter season. Public Works Supervisor Zierden claimed he did not believe removal or storage of the baskets would pose an issue.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to forbid the following activities on the City's Disc Golf Course via a recommended Code of Conduct resolution to the City Council:

- Recreation Area Hours: 8:00am to 8:00pm
- Hikers Yield to Disc Golf Players
- Be Respectful and Courteous, This is a Residential Area
- Keep Voices Down, No Amplified Sounds, and No Obscenities
- Stay on the Fairways and Do Not Go onto Private Property
- Dog Waste Must be Picked Up and Disposed
- No Glass Containers
- Camping is Not Allowed
- Use Bathrooms Provided
- Uncontrolled Animals
- Use of Tobacco, Nicotine, and Lobelia Products and Related Electronic Delivery Devices (e.g., e-cigarettes, vaping, etc.)
- Use of Alcohol and THC Infused Beverages
- Use of Fireworks
- Hunting and Trapping Any Kind
- Weapons and Firearms Except as Allowed by State Statute
- Motorized Vehicles
- Littering and Disposal of Any Garbage Except in Provided Trash Receptacles

Administrator Chanski clarified while the recommended code of conduct could be applied by the City Council via resolution, enforcement of any and all items would be dependent

upon whether or not each item was specifically written into the City's Code of Ordinances. Additionally, he highlighted enforcement of rules on the course by the police department would be dependent upon their availability.

MOTION TOFT/ZIERDEN TO MAKE DISC GOLF PLAY A SEASONAL ACTIVITY BY CLOSING DOWN THE DISC GOLF COURSES BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1ST AND APRIL 1ST EVERY YEAR, MOTION FAILED 1-4 WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS SLIPY, ARNE, WILLIAMS, AND ZIERDEN OPPOSING WITH COMMITTEE MEMBER MCKELLAR ABSTAINING.

MOTION WILLIAMS/MCKELLAR TO APPROVE THE CODE OF CONDUCT AS DISCUSSED BY THE COMMITTEE, MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Disc Golf Course Event Permit

Chair Arne explained she was bringing this item forward as the Breezy Point Disc Golf league mentioned a desire to host a two-day two course tournament which they have been planning for years.

Committee Member Zierden noted she had brought up the idea of limiting the course use to one per day to ensure one of the courses was available for public use on any given day.

Shane Humphrey explained he had been planning such an event for years and outlined the steps he has taken with the PDGA to ensure local tournaments meet regulations. He also noted, in his opinion, it would be inappropriate for the City to allow the Breezy Point Disc Golf Club to rent only one course and have them compete with community members utilizing the other course while they are attempting to play.

Committee Member Zierden explained while she would like to accommodate them, she did not feel comfortable preferencing the league over residents.

Committee Member Williams noted this issue is the same conflict she has with the Community Garden. Her tax dollars, as a resident, are being used to benefit/support a small group of people who are utilizing a park amenity. That being said, she was willing to support the permit so long as the use times were clearly laid out and the change was clearly communicated to the City Council.

Chair Arne noted her desire to remove the 40-person threshold that would require an event over 40 persons to get a permit. Administrator Chanski clarified that understanding was correct. Committee Member Zierden inquired if it would be better to simply remove the language as it would be extremely difficult to enforce.

The Committee also discussed changing the even permit to be limited solely to PDGA sanctioned Disc Golf events at the prompting of Mr. Humphrey. Administrator Chanski explained he was not comfortable recommending that change as it would discriminate against a particular group. He also explained the City Council had specifically designed the permit to avoid that by making it apply broadly.

Shane Humphrey also inquired how many events would be allowed throughout the year. Administrator Chanski clarified the permit currently allows for five as it allows one per month during the tournament season.

Administrator Chanski further clarified that if the Committee would like to alter course use to allow for dual play the second paragraph needed to be altered to reflect that update.

MOTION SLIPY/WILLIAMS TO ALTER THE CITY'S DISC GOLF COURSE EVENT PERMIT WITH THE PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED CHANGES, MOTION CARRIED 4-2 WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS TOFT AND ZIERDEN OPPOSING.

Sledding Hill and Snowshoe Trail

Chair Arne recommended pushing the item to the next meeting as they have already spent a lot of time on matters today and the summer season has begun.

Staff Reports

Public Works Supervisor Zierden updated the committee on the status of the signage request sent to the City Council and his research into placing a portable bathroom at the north end of the Agate Pass Disc Golf Course. Additionally, he updated the committee on the general state of parks throughout the City.

Administrator Chanski delivered a quick overview of the City's Code of Conduct for meetings and provided additional reading material to the Committee that Chair Arne thought may be helpful to their operation. Additionally, Chair Arne outlined her expectations for the Committee and explained her thoughts on rules and regulations.

Committee Reports

Chair Arne mentioned she would like Committee Member McKellar to present further information regarding his conversations with the Lions Club and requested he discuss the matter during the next Parks and Recreation Committee meeting. Committee Member McKellar explained he would bring information forward when it was available.

Chair Arne explained she had a discussion with a natural playground company and wanted to see if the Committee would like to hear from them during one of their regular meetings.

Adjourn

MOTION ZIERDEN/WILLIAMS TO ADJOURN, MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Submitted by Daniel Eick, Assistant City Administrator