



**MINUTES
PARK BOARD MEETING
March 23, 2026**

Meeting Location

City Hall Conference Room - 450 Virginia Avenue

Present: Chair: Erika Leachman; Secretary: Mark Preissing; Members: Donny Chillstrom and Kelly Grady; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm by Chair Leachman.

Administer Oath of Office to New Park Board Member / Welcome & Introductions

City Clerk Moeller administered the Oath of Office to the Park Board's newest member, Kelly Grady.

Approve Agenda

A motion was made by Chillstrom, seconded by Preissing, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

Regular Business

a. Approve Minutes of December 1, 2025 Park Board Meeting

A motion was made by Chillstrom, seconded by Preissing, to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2025 meeting. Ayes: all.

b. Recommendation on the Appointment of Park Board Chair and Secretary Officer Positions for 2026

A motion was made by Chillstrom, seconded by Grady, to recommend the appointments of Board member Erika Leachman to the position of Chair, and Board member Mark Preissing to the position of Secretary remain unchanged for 2026. Ayes: all.

c. Discussion of Potential Park Improvement Projects / Grant Opportunities

Chair Leachman discussed a proposed project to upgrade the ice rink area at Holbrook Park to make the space more usable with a number of improvements related to water and water retention. A MnDNR Outdoor Recreation Program Grant will be applied for with the application due on March 31. The grant application will request approximately \$900,000 and be titled "Community Rink Project".

Park Board members also discussed improvements including the addition of a dog park at Dexter Park and tennis court resurfacing at Hardin Park.

d. Consider Planning for a Spring / Summer Event in a City Park

The idea of a cleanup event in City parks on Arbor Day was brought up. Ultimately, Park Board members agreed to stage a community picnic and bonfire event at at Nelson Lakeside Park, tentatively set for Saturday, May 30 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. A number of initial brainstormed ideas were raised including bring your own food; inviting firefighters, the Mayor and Council, the Long Lake Rowing Crew, or the Long Lake Waters Association. The Board agreed to continue moving forward with event planning efforts at their next meeting, set for Monday, April 13 beginning at 4:30 pm.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Adjourn

Hearing no objection, Chair Leachman adjourned the meeting by general consent at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Preissing, Park Board Secretary