

City of Winsted
Park Commission
City Council Chambers
September 14, 2015
5:00 p.m.

Present: Steve Ebert
Evelyn Fowler
Tim Fury
Petie Littfin
Bonnie Quast (Council Liaison)
Cindy Racette

Staff Present: Daniel Tienter, City Administrator
Raquel Kirchoff, Administrative Assistant

1) Call the Meeting to Order

Mr. Ebert called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2) Approval of Minutes

Ms. Littfin motioned to approve the minutes from the following meetings and work sessions. Mr. Fury seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

- a. June 22, 2015 Park Commission Meeting
- b. June 22, 2015 Park Commission Work Session
- c. July 13, 2015 Park Commission Work Session
- d. August 10, 2015 Park Commission Work Session

3) No Old Business

4) New Business

a) Winsted Athletic Complex

Mr. Tienter stated that a Winsted resident contacted the City to inquire about the removal of the fence at Winsted Athletic Complex, Main Avenue West and 3rd Street North, to make the field more accessible to Winsted residents.

Ms. Littfin asked if it would make a difference if the fence was down for the few football games that are played on that field by the Holy Trinity School. Mr. Ebert stated that it should not make a difference and that the portion of the fence to consider removing is the portion that runs parallel to Main Avenue West, from the basketball courts westward.

Mr. Ebert stated that he believes that most residents think that the field belongs to the Holy Trinity School; however, the field is a city, municipal field. The one sign on the complex indicating that it is a municipal complex is located where it is not easily seen, off of Winsted Avenue West.

Mr. Tienter stated that as the Park Commission works through the city park inventories to create a park master plan, they can think about other uses for the field at the Winsted Athletic Complex and think about the removal of the fence.

Mr. Ebert stated that when the Park Commission reviews this complex for the master plan, the Park Commission should consider removing the fence, adding trees to create shade areas at this complex, and adding seating.

b) Westgate Park

Mr. Tienter stated that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) inspects parks that have received grant funds to make sure that they are in compliance with the terms of the grant.

Mr. Tienter stated that Mill Reserve Park and Westgate Park were inspected in 2015. Mill Reserve Park had no findings from the inspection. Westgate Park had several findings from the inspection including:

- the lack of accessible parking space
- general concerns regarding if the equipment in the park met the safety standards
- the equipment as handicapped user friendly and accessible as it could be
- difficulty determining the park boundaries.

Mr. Tienter stated that he would send a formal response to the MN DNR once the Park Commission gives their input regarding the findings. He continued by stating that he has talked with the Public Works Department who can install a parking sign to address the finding.

Mr. Tienter stated that the Public Works staff did inspect the equipment at Westgate Park and determined that it met safety standards. He continued by stating that some of the comments from the MN DNR were likely prompted by the age of the equipment.

Mr. Tienter stated that at the far south end of the park, there is a drainage wetland. The boundary will need to be clarified with the MN DNR.

Mr. Ebert stated that the pea gravel is a concern at this park and other parks. Mr. Tienter stated that removing the pea gravel is an option and this can be reviewed as part of the Park Master Planning process.

5) Other Business

Ms. Littfin stated that there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 26, 2015 for the Luce Line State Trail from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Southview Park.

6) Adjournment

Mr. Fury motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Littfin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Daniel Tienter

Daniel Tienter,
City Administrator
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

Raquel Kirchoff

Raquel Kirchoff,
Administrative Assistant
City of Winsted