

City of Winsted
Park Commission
Monday, December 9, 2013
5:00 p.m.

Park Commission Members Present: Kimberly Moen
Steve Ebert
Tim Fury
Petie Littfin

Absent: Jordan Wolfe

Staff Present: Clay Wilfahrt, City Administrator
Raquel Kirchoff, Administrative Assistant

1) Call the Meeting to Order

Ms. Moen called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

2) Approval of Minutes – August 12, 2013

Mr. Ebert made a motion to approve the minutes of the Park Commission Meeting on August 12, 2013. Ms. Littfin seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

3) No Staff Report

a) Skating Rink

Mr. Wilfahrt stated that the City will not proceed with a permanent solution for a skating rink for the 2013 – 2014 winter season. The Public Works Department will create a temporary solution by berming snow and flooding an area near Campbell Field for the 2013 - 2014 season. The City will work with CR Electric to find out what the cost of lighting for the area is and will update the Park Commission once this information is known. Regarding a permanent skating rink, Mr. Wilfahrt stated that the City is contacting suppliers regarding purchasing preferably a used rink structure for the City to reduce the cost.

b) Luce Line State Trail

Mr. Wilfahrt stated that the City is working with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the City Engineer to make the Luce Line State Trail to coincide with the Winsted Municipal Airport. The future of the Airport may shift the runway protection zone which will then cut into the Luce Line State Trail, and the trail cannot be located within the runway protection zone. Both projects receive federal funds, so both projects have to be planned together.

Mr. Wilfahrt stated that in the mean time, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has awarded a bid to pave a portion of the Luce Line State Trail. The portion that the City is working on will not be paved during this part of the project. Mr. Wilfahrt stated that the DNR has removed trees near the trail to construct a horse trail.

Ms. Littfin stated that people were concerned about some of the stumps left from the removal of the trees that were not cut down to the ground. She continued by stating that the stumps are not on the trail, so if snowmobilers remain on the trail, they should avoid the stumps.

Council Member Quast asked if the stumps could be flagged to let people know where they were, to avoid injury. Mr. Wilfahrt stated that he would contact the DNR to address the issue.

Mr. Ebert asked what portion of the trail would be paved. Mr. Wilfahrt stated that there will be several phases to the paving and that it would start in Hutchinson and move east. He continued

c) Park Commission Meeting Time

Council Member Quast stated that a consistent day and time needs to be chosen for the Park Commission meetings. The Park Commission members agreed. Mr. Wilfahrt stated that he would gather available times from Park Commission members that had not replied and then suggest a meeting time for the Park Commission meetings. The Park Commission members discussed that if a meeting time could not be determined that the City Council should select the day and time for the meeting.

4) Old Business

a) Winsted Little League

Mr. Fury asked for an update on the projects completed at the ball fields in Winsted by the Winsted Little League. Mr. Ebert explained the work completed which was the agril lime placed on the fields, the protective tubing placed on the fences, and a shed that was placed, but stated that there are still improvements that need to be completed. One is to provide electricity to Southview Field for pitching machines so electricity does not have to be provided by Mr. Mitch Wittmer's property any longer. Another is a permanent set of bleachers to be placed at Southview.

5) New Business

a) Park Commission Projects

Mr. Wilfahrt stated that with the turnover that has occurred with Winsted City Administrators, he would like to review a list of improvements for parks with the Park Commission.

The Park Commission discussed and suggested feedback and research from the City Administrator on the following list of ideas for improvements to parks.

- Bike trail
- Park activities and/or equipment for teenagers, adults and seniors
- Updating the Skate Park
- Keeping the equipment and amenities that we already have up to date, clean and neat to promote repeated usage
- Researching to find how cities are trying to get youth that are so involved with social media to spend more time in physical activity

Mr. Wilfahrt stated that he would start to gather ideas for the Park Commission to consider for park improvements focused on teenagers and older.

Ms. Moen stated that the bike route through the City has been determined and now the signs need to be developed for that route. She suggested that the Park Commission work with the Downtown Vibrancy Commission to discuss the signs together so that both commissions are not developing signage separately. Mr. Wilfahrt stated that he would review what has been discussed for bike route signage so far and would talk with the Downtown Vibrancy Commission members about both Commissions working together to develop the signage.

6) No Announcements

7) Adjournment

Mr. Ebert made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fury seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Clay Wilfahrt

Clay Wilfahrt
City Administrator
City of Winsted

ATTEST:

Raquel Kirchoff

Raquel Kirchoff
Administrative Assistant
City of Winsted