

**ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
June 2, 2020 6:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Carlson, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag,
Lenhart, O'Brien, Stoner
ABSENT: Kim
STAFF: Brokke, Christensen, Johnson

1) INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Hoag introduced the virtual Zoom format for the meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic. State Law allows for an exception to in-person public meetings during pandemics to ensure the safety of commissioners, staff and the public. The public was still encouraged to participate in the meeting using the Zoom platform.

2) ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Roll Call: Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Carlson, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag, Lenhart, O'Brien, Stoner.

Chair Hoag called for public comment by members of the audience on any non-agenda items. No one indicated a desire to speak.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 5, 2020 MEETING

Commissioner O'Brien moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Heikkila seconds.

Roll Call

Ayes: Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag, Lenhart, O'Brien, and Stoner.

Nays: None.

4) PARK DEDICATION REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION – MIDLAND LEGACY ESTATES - 2395 COUNTY ROAD B WEST

Both Chair Hoag and staff reviewed the role of the Parks and Recreation Commission in the Park Dedication process. The role of the Commission is to review and make recommendations to the city on Park Dedication matters only, namely whether to take land or cash to satisfy the requirement. Staff reviewed the Park Dedication process:

- Development application is submitted to the city
- Referred to Parks and Recreation Commission for Park Dedication recommendation
- Recommendation goes to the Planning Commission for their recommendation
- Recommendations to the City Council

- Role of the Parks and Recreation Commission is to review and make recommendations whether the city should accept land or cash or combination

In addition, staff provided an overview of the Park Dedication process, history, purpose and options with the Commission.

The Commission reviewed location maps of Midland Legacy Estates and the proposed site plan for the development which includes a sidewalk along Eustis as part of the development. The project qualifies for Park Dedication. The proposal summary for Midland Legacy Estates includes:

- Total Acreage = 5.84
- 18 new lots
- The cash amount for the additional 18 lots would be \$72,000 (\$4,000 per additional lot)
- Land Requirement = .58 acre
- Land Proposal = .58 acre

Todd Ganz and Tom Collins from Integrity Land Development joined the Commission meeting to answer any questions on the proposed development.

Commissioner Lenhart inquired about the wetland status of the property and how that impacts the development. She also asked what would happen to the proposed park parcel if cash is taken in lieu of land. Developer Ganz explained that the five acre parcel has been approved as a storm water wetland by thy watershed district. This distinction allows for a retaining wall or building one foot away from the wetland. Also, he noted that if cash is chosen the proposed park area will belong to the Home Owners Association who could potentially add a bench and use it as an area to walk the property owner's dogs.

N. Nelson, 2151 Fulham Observed that there were drawings for a park site in Southwest Roseville from the Comprehensive Plan in the Commission packet. She questioned why Parks and Recreation staff did not negotiate with the owners to try to purchase the whole property, or a portion of it, when it went up for sale. Also, she asked if the developer puts a retaining wall around the wetland if it would destroy wildlife who depend upon that land for a water source or habitat. She noted this does not feel very environmentally friendly.

Chair Hoag asked N. Nelson if she would suggest the Commission recommend land or cash to satisfy Park Dedication for Midland Legacy Estates. N. Nelson suggested cash as the proposed land does not appear useful for a park.

Staff responded that they did have discussions with the property owner about purchasing the parcel. However, the price was never at an amount that the city would pursue. The city's policy is that it is a willing buyer/willing seller at a fair price. Also, staff noted that the city was interested in the entire parcel.

C. Nockleby, 2171 St. Croix St. Requested specific documentation from Parks and Recreation Director, Lonnie Brokke, of the conversations with the Shannon family about the purchase of the property and what year those conversations took place.

Brokke responded that he met with the Shannon Family personally around the time of the Master Plan process which was during 2010-2012.

Chair Hoag asked C. Nockelby if she would suggest the Commission recommend land or cash to satisfy Park Dedication for Midland Legacy Estates. C. Nockelby stated that she would not suggest either option.

P. Nockleby submitted the same question as C. Nockleby via the Q&A section in Zoom.

Commissioner Stoner noted that the Southwest concept drawings in the June 5, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission packet were general concepts for all open parcels in the Southwest Roseville area. They were not drawn specifically for this 5 acre site.

Commissioner Baggenstoss asked how many parks are in constellation J. Staff responded that there are not any parks currently in Constellation J.

Commissioner Baggenstoss proposed not suggesting land or cash as both options are undesirable and perhaps the Commission looks at a third option of a non-recommendation to the City Council.

Vice-Chair Dahlstrom relayed that he supported tabling a recommendation at the last meeting. However, a decision needs to be made as not much has changed with the staff and developer working together over the last few weeks.

Commissioner O'Brien agreed that it is difficult to hear that this parcel is being sold for an amount that the city cannot afford. She fully supported tabling the recommendation at the last meeting to wait to see if there was some other option. However, at this point O'Brien supports providing a recommendation as that is what the Commission has been tasked to do. A subsequent recommendation can be made that the Commission feels this is a poor idea. Members of the Commission can also attend the City Council meeting where they are discussing this issue to speak as citizens and Commissioners. However, to just abdicate responsibility is to not have any say in the future park planning at this site.

The Commission discussed the potential options for park land and the options for their recommendation.

Commissioner Dahlstrom noted that a park cannot be put on any of the streets that are not public. Only Eustis and County Road B West are public streets surrounding this parcel. Also, he reiterated that a .5 acre parcel is very small and would still require park staff to upkeep it regardless of size.

Chair Hoag recommended to propose preferably lots 14, 15 and/or 16 (and potentially 12 and 13) as a potential location for the .58 acre of parkland to fulfill the Park Dedication Requirement for 2395 County Road B West to the City Council. If that location is not feasible the Commission recommends cash in lieu of land. Seconded by Commissioner Baggenstoss.

The Commission and staff discussed potential options for a park that is .58 acres.

Commissioner O'Brien stated that she is concerned about the small size of this potential park as many of the residents who provided feedback to the Commission were derisive about the size of Midland Grove Park and its lack of accessibility. She worries if residents would approve of an even smaller park in the area. However, she did point out that the Commission can't know that as most of the feedback did not relay the citizen's desire of land vs. cash. O'Brien stated that she is concerned that the small piece of land may make the Commission feel better but it may not be useable to the community.

Chair Hoag noted that the location he recommended was not chosen solely for the easiest development of a park, rather he recommend it because of the potential to save as much of the natural area as possible. Also, it may potentially become a piece of a long term "park puzzle" in this area.

Commissioner Dahlstrom reiterated that this is a very small piece of land that is not easily accessible. Also, the city has to maintain a park long term even if it is left largely as a green space.

Commissioner Baggenstoss stated that there are a lot of great parks in a lot of great cities that are small and are very much appreciated by residents in those cities. As Roseville becomes more urban it is important to start thinking about pocket parks within the city.

M. McNealy, Having a small space that is not surrounded by traffic like the garden park on Cleveland is more desirable. In this front section on Co. Rd. B there are enough walkers and bikers on our end of town that would use this space to enjoy nature.

Roll Call

Ayes: Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag, Lenhart, O'Brien, and Stoner.

Nays: None.

5) STAFF REPORT

a) COVID-19 UPDATE RELATED TO PARKS AND RECREATION

Staff provided an update on Roseville Parks and Recreation's response to Covid-19.

- Opening with Social Distancing
 - Cedarholm Golf Course
 - Community Gardens
 - Lexington Avenue Flower Planting
 - Special thanks to FOR Parks who makes a generous contribution to the Blooming Boulevard every year

- Event Cancellations and Closures
 - Community Garage Sale
 - Rosefest
 - Summer Entertainment (through July 4)
 - June Roll-In Movie

- Facilities Cancellations and Closures
 - Picnic Shelters (through July 4)
 - Park Buildings (through July 4)
 - Rental Banquet Space (through July 4)
 - HANC
 - Roseville Skating Center
 - Interior of Cedarholm
 - City Hall
 - Basketball Courts
 - Volleyball Courts
 - Rosebrook Pool

- Scheduled Reopening
 - Playgrounds
 - Additional Restrooms
 - Athletic Fields
 - Skating Center (Mid-June)
 - Rental Ice
 - Skating School
 - Gymnastics Center (Mid-June)
 - Modified Recreational Programs (Mid-June)
 - Volunteer Events

- Awaiting More Guidance/Future Plans
 - Adult Sports
 - July/August Summer Entertainment and Movies
 - Gathering Spaces for Small Groups
 - Picnic Shelters
 - Park Buildings
 - Banquet Spaces
 - Larger Recreational Programs

- Covid-19 Guidelines
 - Groups of 10 or less, including instructors
 - Parent involvement planned only
 - Drop off
 - Spectators
 - Minimal/no contact between instructor and pupil
 - Shared equipment restrictions
 - No contact
 - Instructors wear masks indoors
 - Staff absences
 - Staff training

- Current Summer Offerings
 - HANC Camps
 - CAMP Care
 - Sports of All Sorts/Kicker Slugger
 - Skateboard Camp (July)
 - Skate School
 - Youth Tennis
 - Golf Leagues
 - Roseville School of Dance
 - Gymnastics (small groups)

Additional details on all programs and if they are open/closed or pending is available at www.cityofroseville.com/parks.

Commissioner Arneson asked when the outdoor skate park at the OVAL will be open. Staff responded that it will likely be late June/early July.

Commissioner Lenhart thanked the Parks and Recreation staff for opening the playgrounds as well as commending staff on all of the hard work that has been put into the summer youth programming.

She noted that her children are enrolled in the new Camp CARE and it is apparent that Roseville is well ahead of other communities in their planning. She also enquired about the family summer campout and if that had been cancelled. Staff responded that the campout is a Rosefest event and it is cancelled. However, staff is still contemplating potentially have a modified version of the campout and medallion hunt later in the summer.

Commissioner Stoner commented how much the opening of the playgrounds may be symbolic for the community normalizing life again.

Commissioner Baggenstoss expressed his appreciation to the Parks and Recreation staff for keeping children safe. He feels that the idea of introducing camp staff via a video to the kids prior to camp is a great idea and will help with the kids not being scared of the camp staff in their masks.

Commissioner Heikkila thanked staff for their work on all of the contingency plans.

b) NEW OR RELEVANT COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATES

- The Roseville Visitors Association's "Roseville in Bloom" 20 Roses in 2020 Program will place 20 roses throughout Roseville this summer. Three roses will be placed within the Roseville Park System (Skating Center, Lexington Park, and Central Park). Additional information on the location of each rose will be available within the coming weeks.
- The joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Council originally scheduled for June is on hold and will be rescheduled for a later date.
- Roseville City Hall remains closed at this time. Reopening is continuing to be discussed.
- The legislation to approve the sale of alcohol at the Cedarholm Community Building has been approved. The City Council will need to approve the sale of alcohol at the Community Building. The kitchen facilities are currently closed at the Cedarholm Community Building.
- There was not a bonding bill approved this legislative session. However, The Guidant John Rose MN had a lot of great feedback during the previous bonding bill and it appears that the legislature understand its importance.
- Parks and Recreation staff is still in contact with the vendor for the Cedarholm Community Building and discussions continue to take place on options for that space.

Chair Hoag reminded the Commission that there is not a July Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Staff reiterated that the Commission and members of the community are always welcome to reach out to staff with any questions or comments at any time.

Also, staff stated that a discussion on the deer population would be on the August Commission meeting agenda. The deer population has increased based on the most recent survey. Staff has been pursuing the possibility of utilizing private land for subsequent deer reductions.

Chair Hoag reminded the Commissioners that any e-mails sent to the Commission should not be replied to utilizing the “reply all” button as it then potentially becomes a meeting and could violate open meeting laws.

Commissioner Brown requested that an e-mail be sent out to the Commission when the Planning Commission or City Council is discussing the Midland Legacy Estates development. Staff confirmed that they would send out a notification for both the Midland Legacy Estates and the Lexington Woods location that was discussed at the May Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

6) **OTHER**

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danielle Christensen, Department Assistant