

**CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA**

**MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Monday, October 16, 2023

7:00 PM

Library Meeting Room

601 S. Washington Avenue, Saint Peter, MN 56082

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City of Saint Peter Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting was conducted at the Public Works office.

A quorum present, Brian Fremo, Secretary called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The following Board Members were present: Lee Alger, Trish Hiscock-Austin, Brian Fremo, Rachelle Fuller, Amanda Malkin, Samuel Mendoza (late), Darrell Pettis and Dustin Sharstrom. The following Board member was absent Josh Weisenfeld. The following ex-officios were present: Pete Moulton, Director of Public Works.

**Visitors** – Haley Moore and Aaron Peterson representing Saint Peter Skate Park Association; Angie Glassel, Administrative Secretary; Curtis Thompson, Interim Maintenance Superintendent.

**Approval of Agenda** – Alger made a motion, seconded by Fuller, to approve the agenda as submitted. With all in favor, the agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes** – Alger made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Sharstrom, to approve the September 18, 2023, minutes. With all in favor, the minutes were approved.

**Unfinished Business**

- A. Parks Master Plan Progress: Moulton shared with the Advisory Board the 60% completed Parks Master Plan and asked for comments. Fuller mentioned she would like under the Community Engagement section a better definition of what Resiliency/Sustainability is. Discussion was made by the Advisory with no other issues at this time. The community open house for the parks master plan review will be on Wednesday, October 25 from 4-7PM at the Community Center – Saint Peter Room.

**New Business**

- A. Dogs in City Parks – Moulton shared that while receiving comments during the creation of the Parks Master Plan several remarks addressed the need for leashed dogs to be in more parks than the currently designated Parks per the City Ordinance Section 8-83. A discussion was held by the Advisory Board to possibly have a portion of Veterans Park designated as a “dog free zone” for those citizens that prefer to not deal with dogs. The goal is to have a safe place to play that is designated “dog free”. A decision was made by the Advisory Board to table this discussion until the November meeting.

**Reports**

- A. Chairs Report (Samuel)  
Nothing currently to report.
- B. Department of Recreation and Leisure Services Updates
  - 1. September Activity Report – Moulton shared that the report was attached within the packet, and nothing was highlighted due to time.

2. Staffing – Moulton mentioned that John Stutzman has accepted the Director of Recreation & Leisure services position. John will be starting at the end of October.

C. Department of Public Works (Pete/Curtis)

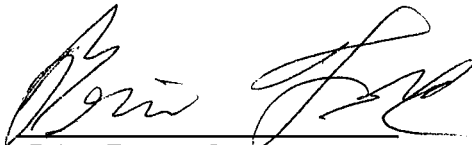
1. Hallett Park Nature-Based Playground Concept Update – Moulton shared that the developers are on track to finish the complex next spring, and playground equipment will be finalized and ordered for installation in the spring of 2024.
2. Future Skate Park – Back in 2022, the Parks & Recreation Board lacked public participation when looking for interested parties to help site and develop an association to help with Park improvements. Since that time there has been interest from a couple of community members in getting an association up and running.

Haley and Aaron shared with the Advisory Board an interest in starting an association and to begin advocating for a Skate Park in Saint Peter. Their goal is a permanent structure but are willing to start with a portable structure, depending on funding.

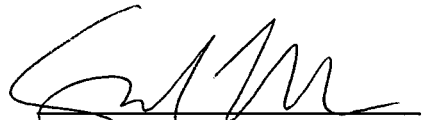
3. Staffing – currently the Forester position is available and posted on the City's website.

**Adjournment-** Fuller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM, seconded by Fremo. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Next scheduled meeting **Monday, November 20 at 7:00 PM** at Public Works office.



Brian Fremo, Secretary



Samuel Mendoza, Vice - Chair