

Chaska Park Board
Meeting Minutes
Oct. 12th, 2021
Chaska Event Center and Zoom

1. Call to Order

The October 12th meeting of the Chaska Park Board was called to order by Chair David Downs at 7pm at the Chaska Event Center.

2. Roll Call

David Downs, Jason Branch, Elizabeth Wynveen, Zach Saueressig, Donelle Heieie, Karli Cich, Thomas Massey, Jalen Destin.

Absent: Georgiann Keyport

Staff Present: Marshall Grange, Mary Monteith

3. Adopt Agenda

Motion to Adopt the October 12, 2021, Agenda

All Approved

4. Visitor Presentation

None

5. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by Wynveen, second by Heieie to approve the September 14th meeting minutes.

6. Receive Council and Planning Meeting Minutes

6A. Council minutes August 16th

6B. Council Minutes September 13th

6C. Planning Minutes August 11th

Wynveen mentioned there was discussion in the Aug. 11th minutes on the Oak Ridge/Costco redevelopment, talk of a tot lot area there. Would we be involved with that or is that the developer? Grange, no, that is something the developer is doing on the site, they are going above and beyond including some park amenities within the development. We would not be a part of it.

7. Action Items

7A. Recommendation for Park Board Dedication as Part of Lennar's Reserve at Autumn Woods Development

Grange shared that there are some people joining us tonight via Zoom, including Josh Metzger, representing the developer Lennar, as well as some here in person.

Grange showed a map of the development, located north of Pioneer Trail, on the southwest corner of Audubon Road. This area was identified in the 2040 Comp Plan for a neighborhood park, so we are looking at as part of park dedication.

We started with this project in May of this year when the developer submitted a concept plan to the city. When there is a park identified in a development plan, it starts with the park board reviewing, then goes on to planning and then council. Grange reminded the board that this is a three-step process, things start with a concept plan, then a preliminary plan and then a final.

This development is just over 45 acres in size. The original concept started with 102 lots. As things relate to park dedication with this project, we have a few options we could consider. We could take up to 10% of the land, which is up to 4.55 acres, we could take cash in lieu of land, which we are not, as it was identified for a park in the 2040 comp plan. We also could do a combination of land and cash.

As we looked at this layout, we concluded that the area east of lot 52 was not as desirable for park space. Our goal was to create a contiguous parkland area in the NW corner, where we suggested the removal of a few of lots, where there then would be just under 2.65 acres. There was some thought that a bit more land would be ideal, or to take it all. However, after some discussion, the conclusion was that 2.65 acres would be sufficient for a neighborhood park space and would also have remaining cash to help cover amenities of the park at a future date.

The concept plan was approved by council on May 17th. As it relates to the whole development, Lennar is subject to multiple stipulations and conditions. As it relates to the park conditions, the city will receive at a minimum 2.65 acres of park dedication in land with a strong recommendation for additional land and receive the balance of park dedication in cash. Lennar will also need to omit the proposed park land dedication starting at northwest corner of lot 52 and everything east from there, and to omit lots 53, 54, and 55 to achieve the minimum 2.65 acres all contiguous on the northwest corner of the site. The resolution that the council adopted, reflected all of that.

Grange shared the new preliminary plan that was submitted to the city. The developer went from 102 lots to 86. They did a general reconfiguring of things. The park area in the NW area is now at 3.13 acres, we landed in a good spot with that based on what we asked for, plus we would receive a balance of 1.42 acres in cash.

Timeline and next steps: Make sure we involve the existing residents as well as new residents that will move in. The timing for that is dependent on construction. Lennar shared that it likely would be spring of 2023 when there would be a decent number of residents living there. Then the community engagement process would start, as could see construction of the park that fall.

Discussions on trail connectivity, and the access into the park off Autumn Woods Drive will still need to occur. That would be with council and the Jonathon Association as well as with the residents.

Tonight, we are requesting action to recommend to City Council to accept the park dedication of 3.13 acres of land as shown in the Lennar preliminary plan submittal and to receive the remaining balance of 1.42 acres of park dedication in cash.

Massey-will this be a part of the Jonathan Association, maintained by them? Yes, the city will own the park, but all around it will belong to Jonathan. City will maintain and own the storm basins.

Saueressig-trail access coming off Autumn Woods, when will that get discussed? Grange hoping it will be done now into next year, some discussions between Jonathon and the city are happening already.

Heieie-Pleased to hear access from Audubon to be discussed.

Visitor-Emily Roman Welter, 2887 Ironwood Blvd, Mark Lundgren, 3075 Autumn Woods Drive and Kip Dunkelberger, Butternut Drive are also here tonight.

Welter-we are a panel that has worked the different pieces of this project. I'd like to say thank you, this has been a collaborative process. In general, a really great job of everyone involved. Hours and hours have been spent on this. We feel very positive about how this plan has come out.

Downs, are we ready for a motion?

Motion by Massey, second by Cich:

To recommend to City Council to accept the park dedication of 3.13 acres of land as shown in the Lennar preliminary plan submittal and receive the remaining balance of 1.42 acres of park dedication in cash.

Josh Metzger with Lennar, spoke via Zoom, we all have been working hard on this, a lot of collaborative effort. Happy to be at this point in the process. Thank you and appreciate the hard work done on this project.

7B. Recommend Consultant for Facility Naming Rights and Sponsorship

Back in May of this year, staff conducted a work session with council and the park board on the idea of naming rights and sponsorship revenue. At that time, Grange walked all through local examples in the metro area that are happening already. There was good discussion on what these new revenues could help us with within our parks and recreation department especially as we think of the curling and event center and the community center and establishing some sustainability in having some resources that can go towards capital improvement projects and replacing large capital projects over time as they age. We felt that if we embark on this, we likely will start with the curling center, as it is the one most ready for something like this, and we have the need and desire to expand the players' lounge across the backside. That space was not built to the ideal size. With all the various events we host here, it would really allow for us to be better hosts at the various events we have here and to also help us to grow our events. Naming rights and sponsorship revenue could help fund such projects.

We talked as well about the benefit of working with a professional consulting firm, through that discussion, the feedback came back to staff that everyone was in support of this. So, from there, we developed and sent out Request for Proposals in July. We received 3 proposals; however, one withdrew. At the August park board meeting, Grange recommended interviewing the 2 candidates and asked for 2 interested board members to serve on the interview committee. Dave Downs and Zach Saueressig expressed interest in doing so and were appointed to do so. In September, Grange, Monteith, Downs and Saueressig sat in on the interviews. The first candidate was Chris Potenza with Front Burner Sports, who is also local. The second one was Kyle Canter, with Superlative Group.

Included in the park board packet was their proposals for review and a chart with various comparisons between the 2 firms. After deliberation, we are here tonight to present our recommendation to the park board to give to city council. Our recommendation is to enter into a service agreement with the Superlative Group. They have 27 years of experience with naming rights. They have delivered over 2.2 billion dollars in revenue for their clients over those years. They have been successful with projects across the country. They have multiple staff on their team that could provide adequate resources to support us. They have really demonstrated success also in the Minnesota area. So has Chris, from Front Burner Sports, but as we were considering an outside entity, that was something we were trying to weigh in on, the level of service they could provide to us. It was apparent that they have been successful in that. With Kyle, the lead consultant on this project from Superlative, he has been the lead on all the Minnesota projects. He's developed a lot of great relationships in Minnesota. The Superlative Group also has a favorable fee structure as it relates to the commission pay out. They spread that 10% commission out annually across the length of the term, which we liked. Also, the cost of the signage and installation of it, they negotiate that with the partnering business, a cost that they have as a part of the project, so less out of pocket money for the city as well. So, with all these elements combined, we feel the Superlative Group will be a great fit to assist the city and

get us started with looking at what the possibilities are for partnership with the curling and event center.

Grange noted, even when working with the consultant, there still would be an approval process through city council before we would sign any type of agreement with a partnering business for any type of naming rights that would go on a facility.

Downs, a couple comments, I didn't think Superlative would be an ideal candidate as they were out of Ohio. But that changed with the amount of work they have done here in Minneapolis; this is one of their areas of focus. When I learned all they do around here, that was a great surprise. They are extremely professional. They are absolutely the right partner, they will bode well for us, maybe even for years to come.

Saueressig, this has been a great project to be a part of. Also, the benefit of due diligence, we got a great opportunity here for the city. This is a great thing to be a part of. I'm excited to see where this will go.

Heieie, I felt the same thing about Superlative and not being local. However, when I reviewed the break down comparisons and the proposals, I feel very confident with our recommendation to city council.

Massey, to clarify, this is just for the naming rights, not for signage? Downs, yes, for the curling and event center. What if something happened to this company down the road? For example, if they went out of business, then what? Downs, they aren't contracted for anything other than this building. They showed us their contracts, they are like 15-25 years in length, that says a lot of how they do business.

Downs, we need a motion.

Motion by Saueressig to Recommend Superlative Group for Facility Naming Rights and Sponsorship, second by Massey.

Motion Carried

8. Discussion Items

8A. Update on Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan

Grange updated the board-the consultant is working on putting the draft of the plan together. The first chapter is out to the steering committee for review and comment. Once complete, we then will coordinate the listening sessions; last week we had one at Lake Grace Apartments, which is owned by Carver County CDA. We had a couple translators there, both Hispanic and Somali, we had good discussion and feedback. Another one tomorrow night at Riverview Terrace, to get feedback from our Latino community. We are wanting to make good effort to hearing all our voices in the community. We are now working with Antonio to do a community open house to show the community our plan, looking sometime around November. Look for

him to present to us in December, and for a recommendation to council. We are excited to see this all start to come together.

Downs, any surprises? Grange, not really, but one thing that came out, was winter trail maintenance, a big barrier for people. How do we make changes there as it comes at a big cost. However, some of it is also education, as we do have 30+ miles of plowed trails, that is a good amount. Downs asked if there was a trail map out there showing where Chaska trails are maintained in the winter? Yes, there is a map out there. Grange, I like the fact that the focus throughout is on all ages and abilities and encouraging more to walk and bike in Chaska.

Cich-Thank you so much for going to Lake Grace apartments with translators. They don't feel like their voice matters. Apartments are often left out; I hope that continues, that you seek those opinions out. Many of those residents walk on Highway 41 to get to the bus station to get to work. It is difficult in some areas. Grange, we are wanting to build more trust with the underserved in our community, it is an on-going goal of ours.

8B. Department Happenings

Grange shared that the night before he attended a unique and emotional opportunity at the fire station. Two of our part time lifeguards from the CCC were recognized, along with a couple others for their help with saving a community center member who recently had a heart attack while working out. They stepped in and did CPR and used the AED until the fire department and Ridgeview paramedics arrived. Ultimately the man was stabilized and was taken to HCMC. Grange shared that those 2 part time staff, had a big impact on the outcome of this. The individual survived, and he and his family came to the fire station to thank all involved. He got the gift of life back. A really neat thing, A.J. and Allissa, had the courage to take their training and put it into action. Some never use it but to use it and have a successful story is rare and awesome. They will now be ambassadors to promote getting AED training, you never know.

Heieie asked if there was anyone out there who offered scholarships for free or reduced CPR classes. Monteith, we offer them here at the CCC, however there are fees for materials and the instructor.

The Fire & Ice Community Festival is this weekend! A fun filled weekend planned. Thursday the Bonspiel starts with 38 teams. A handful of teams did cancel due to Covid, staff are still trying to fill those spots. Friday nights kick off band is The 4onthefloor, out of Minneapolis. The fireworks will start at 8:30. Saturday activities start at noon, with lots of family fun activities, a kids DJ, and a bean bag tournament. The Chaska Fire Department will also be celebrating their 150th anniversary. There will be water fights, antique fire trucks on display as well as bag pipers at 3pm. Music starts at 4pm with Bad Girlfriend's and then Chaska's own Johnny Holm band at 7pm. The evening ends with more great fireworks at 8:30. Lots of fun for all!

Grange-Kudos to all our staff as well as public works, for all their help, as well as several sponsors. Schram Brewery has even made a special brew for the fire department!

Then last event of the month, Trail of Fun at Athletic Park, Oct. 22, 5-8pm. Must have reservations for the hayrides this year!

Cortina Woods neighborhood playground-decommissioned and re-do has started.

Pickleball at the SW Transit parking ramp, staff just got the 3 courts lined. Staff are working on the protocols. Communications are out to our current active players as well to let them know of this new site. More marketing pieces will be coming.

Clover Ridge outdoor hockey rink, boards are done but haven't shipped yet. Install early November. Resurface of the skateboard area is also done.

9. Other Business

9A. Park Board Round Table

Heieie-Drove by Cortina Woods playground, I look forward to completion of that.

Cuzzy's has an upcoming fun run on Oct. 30th, check it out on their website. Looks fun!

Branch-Excited for Fire & Ice, fall time, is my favorite time.

Saueressig-I continue to be impressed by what a great community this is. Emily, I ran into her quite a bit these last few weeks, she is involved with many things in the community. The lifeguards, I see them around as well, as I do the FT staff, they are just awesome. Great things happening in our community.

Wynveen-I did the first parkrun in Chaska, I was impressed with how organized it was, and that there is a social piece to it, they met at Red Bench Bakery after for socializing. I left there feeling so great. I encourage everyone to try it, if not wanting to do the run/walk, you can volunteer as well. I had the opportunity to check out the Par 30 (The Loop) recently, it looks awesome, and is really starting to take shape, I'm excited.

Destin-Congratulations to the Chaska Football team, they are undefeated again, 6-0, they have been real fun to watch.

Massey-I also was at the parkrun, there was a gal in her 80's there! This is my last meeting, a good experience, thanks. Feels good to be plugged into the community.

Downs-went and early voted today at the courthouse, I'd encourage everyone to get out and vote. He also asked about interested people who have sent in applications for the board, Grange, we do have one application in, we are holding off now till the year of the year, will likely fold into 2022-year process. Will be a bigger push.

10. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn the Park Board Meeting by Saueressig, Second by Wynveen.

Motion Carried.