

**Meeting Minutes
New Prague Park Board
Tuesday, May 8, 2012
5:30 PM**

1. Annual Park Tour

The Park Board conducted its annual tour of four parks within the City. Parks toured this year were:

- A. Greenway Park
- B. Sliding Hill Skate Park
- C. Foundry Hill Park
- D. Philipps Park

2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chair Matthew Lasch. Members present were Maggie Bass, Sharon Brown, Allen Mahowald, Matthew Lasch and Amy Jirik. Absent were Mike Slavik, Shawn Ryan and Youth Representative John Knoer. Staff present was Ken Ondich – Planning Director and Jim Calliguri – Parks Maintenance Supervisor.

3. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mahowald, seconded by Bass to approve the April 10, 2012 meeting minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

4. Review Financial Reports

Planning Director Ondich presented the financial reports to the Park Board, noting that during the month of April and additional \$0 was added to the Park Equipment Fund from new residential home permits.

A motion was made by Bass seconded by Jirik to accept the financial reports as presented. Motion carried (5-0).

5. Suggested Off-Street Walking and Biking Routes Map – Final Review

Planning Director Ondich stated that at the April 10, 2012 Park Board meeting, discussion took place regarding a proposed map that could be created showing some examples off-street walking and biking routes within the City. He stated that a number of ideas and suggested routes were reviewed and ultimately the Park Board directed staff to incorporate some suggested routes into the map and to bring the map back for a final review at tonight's meeting.

The Park Board reviewed the map and noted that they liked the map and asked if staff could possibly change the map, except for the trail routes to a grayscale color so that the trail routes would stand out better on the map. They also asked that staff distribute the map on the City Website, medical clinics, the Chamber of Commerce, hotels, schools and gas stations. Discussion also took place about placing brochures along the trail or installing a permanent map of the trails in Greenway Park but consensus was that brochure kiosks might be vandalized and a permanent map should wait until the West TH19 trail was completed.

6. Scheel Land for Sale

Planning Director Ondich stated that he was recently approached by the owners of a lot adjacent to Southside Park regarding the City's interest in purchasing the lot. He stated that the lot is not a buildable lot as it only has access from an adjacent platted alley on the south side and that it is 100' by 124.8' and the representative of the owners (their daughter) has provided an e-mail that they are willing to sell the property to the City for \$41,100. He stated that he does not believe the land is worth \$41,100 as a purchase price and furthermore the Park Board does not have any funds available to purchase property at this time. He added that while the property would be a nice addition to the park, it really has no practical use other than simply adding to the overall park boundary. He stated that if the land were to be deeded at no cost to the City he would recommend acceptance, subject to ensuring that the land is not contaminated in any way, but would not suggest paying for the property to acquire it.

The Park Board did not take any formal action on the Scheel property acquisition and noted that they did not support a purchase of the property.

7. Greenway Park Bathroom Discussion

Planning Director Ondich stated that at last month's meeting and during the Park Board prior to the meeting that the Park Board discussed the merits of installing a bathroom surround and portable bathroom at Greenway Park because of the adjacent nearby businesses, lack of a playground for little kids and the close proximity of Greenway Park which has bathrooms.

A motion was made by Jirik, seconded by Mahowald to not install a bathroom surround and portable bathroom at Greenway Park as was included on the 2012 Park Board Project and Goals Listing. Motion carried (5-0).

The Park Board noted that they would like to review the goals for 2012 at the June meeting to determine if a new project could replace the bathroom surround for the \$2,500 budget amount.

8. Miscellaneous

- a. **Settlers Park: Survey of the Park Boundary** – Planning Director Ondich stated that the field work for the survey of the Settlers Park boundary near the “Green Meadow” area had been completed earlier in the week and that staff had started to install the boundary markers. He stated that he had received a number of phone calls from residents adjacent to that area of the park who were not pleased with the boundary markers due to their location, because it was discovered that a number of property owners are encroaching into the park with fences and other items, or they simply thought the boundary markers were unnecessary. He stated that the results of the survey show that the park boundary was clearly not widely known by the area residents and that establishing the boundary now would alleviate problems that could occur down the road.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made by Jirik, seconded by Bass to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 PM.
Motion carried (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Ondich". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "K" and "O".

Ken Ondich
Planning Director