

CITY OF WACONIA
MINUTES OF SCHEDULED MEETING
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
June 20th, 2024

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Waconia Parks & Recreation Board in the Maple Conference Room was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Shaw.

Park Board Members Present: Lacey Shaw, Ben Strasheim, Leah Soltis, Tom Adamini, Tami Peterson.

Park Board Members Absent: Adam Hegeholz

Council Liaison: Nick Gleason

Staff Present: Shane Fineran, Jonathan Nelson, Mike Mawdsley, Jon Haukaas

Guests: Randy Sorensen, Paul Brown, Tammy Peterson, Susan Jeska, Katie Lopez, Tim Schmidt, Dick Weinzierl, Tad Kreun, Teresa Green, Julie Hoag, Mike Bulliz, Greta Brodemeyer, John Douville

Adopt Agenda

Adamini made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Soltis. All in favor.

Approval of Minutes from May 16, 2024 Meeting

Adamini made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Soltis, All in favor.

Regular Business

1. Cedar Point Park Pickleball Court Conversion

At the June 3rd City Council meeting Mr. John Douville and Mr. Darel Radde, representing a group of pickleball enthusiasts known as the Waconia Pickleball Association, presented to the City Council a request to re-surface the dual purpose tennis/pickleball courts at Cedar Point Park into a dedicated 6 court pickleball facility. Following the presentation and some public comment from those in support and those in opposition, the City Council referred this matter to the Park Board for consideration and review.

Mr. Darel Radde approached staff earlier this year requesting the city to re-surface and re-tripe the courts located at Cedar Point Park to accommodate up to six pickleball courts. Currently the courts are striped for two tennis courts and two pickleball courts. Staff researched this request and received a quote to complete the work for \$17,175. The 2024 operating budget did not have adequate resources available to complete this work in 2024, which was shared with Mr. Radde.

The group requested to appear before the City Council to discuss the possibility of the work being completed in 2024 by the city with the promise of Mr. Radde and other area pickleball players paying the city back for some or all of the costs of re-surfacing and re-striping the court surfacing. At the time of the City Council meeting, the group stated that they had raised approximately \$13,000 for the conversion. The request made at the meeting also is for the tennis striping to be completely removed from the court surface and change the use to pickleball only facility at this location, with nets provided by the group and donation effort to be kept locked and available to the group that has donated funds. During the

presentation the group also requested that the courts be managed by the association for association play, clinics, leagues, etc.

This matter was referred to the Park Board by the City Council.

Paul Brown, Tammy Petersen, Susan Jeska, Katie Lopez, Tim Schmidt, and Dick Weinzierl, representing the Waconia Area Pickle ballers group presented information regarding the interest, popularity, and health and social benefits of the sport of pickleball. The group also presented information regarding noise and mitigation options related to the issue as well as parking mitigation concerns. The group noted that a possible solution could be special wind type screening for an estimated cost of \$18,000 and that parking could be accommodated nearby on Lake Street, Bayview Elementary, and by accessing the park via foot or bicycle. It was noted by Administrator Fineran that an estimate received by a contractor for permanent net systems would be approximately \$4,000 per court and with the re-surfacing and wind/noise screening the cost to convert the courts is approximately \$60,000.

Tad Kreun, spoke in opposition to the conversion of the courts to pickle ball only.

Teresa Green, Julie Hoag, Mike Bullis, and Greta Brodemyer, spoke in support of the conversion of the courts to pickle ball only.

The board discussed the information presented and it was motioned by Adamini to recommend to the City Council that the courts at Cedar Point Park be converted to a pickle ball only facility. Seconded by Strasheim. Adamini and Strasheim voted in favor. Shaw, Soltis, and Peterson voted in opposition. Motion failed.

Staff Updates

Mike Mawdsley provided update to the board regarding various park and trail maintenance activities in the community. Jon Haukaas was introduced to the Board as the new Public Services Director.

Adjournment

Adamini motion to adjourn. Soltis second. All in favor. Adjourn at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shane Fineran', with a stylized, cursive script.

Shane Fineran
City Administrator