

Arlington Park Committee

Meeting Minutes

10/22/2008

I. Call to order

Chairman Ihrke called to order the regular meeting of the **Arlington Park Committee** at **7pm** on October 22, 2008 in **the Council Chambers**.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Battcher, Hultgren, Chairman Ihrke, Larsen, Vice Chairperson B. Thomes, Councilmember Wills.

Members Absent: Schultz

Others present: Street Supt. Thomes, Mayor Kreft

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes were approved from 7/16/08 meeting; motion by B.Thomes and 2nd by Wills.

IV. Tree Ordinance Review

A draft Tree Ordinance was reviewed. Wills commented that sections 6 & 7 should be removed as they pertain to weeds, which the City has a separate weed ordinance in place. Considerable discussion was held on trimming and removal. Mayor Kreft stated that the City's Forester had looked over the proposed ordinance and had made some changes. It was agreed to hold off on further discussion until the revised ordinance could be obtained from the Forester.

V. Long term plan for Sportsman's Park

Mayor Kreft commented that he was including the Sportsman's Park into his 2009 goals. After going through the Comp Plan process, it was determined that a long-term plan needs to be put together for this park. He stated that upon implementing a plan, grant money becomes available to help with improvements. He asked the Parks Committee to work with P&Z Administrator/Consultant Smith-Strack and put a plan together.

VI. Open Issues

Discussion was held on having drinking water fountains in the parks. It was noted that there was water available at Four Season's Park (behind Senior Building), Frenzel Park and Memorial Park; and nothing at Fairview Park or the Sportsman's Park. Supt. Thomes commented that they are currently looking into having a hydrant put in at Four Season's Park to flood the ice rink and was hopeful that it would include a supply line for drinking water (closer to the playground equipment). It was noted that three fountains had been budgeted for in 2009.

Some discussion was also held on providing benches in the parks and what had been budgeted for.

VII. Review Ordinance 203 – Parks Committee

Mayor Kreft commented that certain Committees were established with one year terms and he was proposing to change them to two year terms. He also proposed making them more uniform (have the same number of members per Committee). He explained that individuals will be asked to fill out an application, which he will review prior to filling any vacancies on the Committees.

Motion by B.Thomes, seconded by Larsen, and passed by unanimous vote to recommend to the City Council to revise Ordinance No. 203 to change the term length to two years and change the number of members to 7.

VIII. Other Business

Battcher expressed concern that more mulch is needed in and around the play equipment areas at Four Seasons Park (possibly other parks). Supt. Thomes commented that they do make mats for placing under swings and slides and will check into pricing.

Battcher expressed concern (as a daycare provider) about the height (too high for younger children to utilize) of the swings at the parks and the limited number of baby/infant swings. Supt. Thomes will check into the regulations for toddler swings and adult swings.

Battcher expressed concern (as a daycare provider) about the location of the port-a-potties at Four Season's Park (too far away from the play equipment). Supt. Thomes commented that there is a lighting issue and accessibility issue now with the fence there.

IX. Adjournment

Chairman Ihrke adjourned the meeting. Next regular meeting set for 11/19/08 (approve tree ordinance) and 1/21/ 2009.

Minutes submitted by: City Staff Vicki Pomplun