

WEST ST. PAUL PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
6:00 PM, Tuesday, July 11, 2023
West St. Paul Council Chambers

Park & Rec. Members Present: Chair Dave Lynch, Luke Abrahamson, Bonnie Bellows, John Cronin, Kelly Hagler, Teresa Smock

Non-Voting Members Present: Recreation Supervisor Sam Murphy

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Citizen Comments-NA**
3. **New Business**
 - a. **Adopt June 13, 2023 Minutes**

Chair Lynch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The June 13, 2023 minutes were approved by the committee.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Field Reservation Policy-Draft**

A motion was made by Member Bellows to approve the field reservation policy with the two changes previously mentioned by Recreation Supervisor Murphy. The motion was seconded by Member Abrahamson. The motion carried. All Ayes.
 - b. **Park Naming Update**

A motion was made to narrow the naming options to the finalists: “Imagination Park,” “Art Park” and “Unity Park” to the park located at Oakdale Avenue and Butler Avenue, and “Shady Grove Park” and “Poolside Park” to the park at the West St. Paul Pool. (The results will be posted at the August meeting.) The committee will make recommendations from the results to City Council. The motion was seconded by Bellows. The motion carried. All Ayes.
 - c. **Possible Disc Golf Course Expansion**

Lynch talked about a budget proposal he constructed for a possible expansion of the disc golf course. He presented a plan for an 18-hole course with two separate layouts, one for more advanced skill players and one for younger or more senior players. The proposed budget is \$17 K. (It excludes labor and shipping costs.) There is potential for sponsorships for the expansion.
5. **Other**
 - a. **Council Updates**
 - i. Recreation Supervisor Murphy reported for Clpn. Berry. Berry sent a message thanking the people who participated in the pop-up events. Last night’s Council meeting was very short and there was nothing new to report from the meeting.
 - b. **Staff Updates**
 - i. **Summer Programming**–Murphy said that the city is in the fifth week of summer programming. The city is hosting a free movie event “DC League of Super-Pets” at Harmon Park this Friday. Prior to the movie the Cops in the Park event will be held. There will be vendors and free food.
 - ii. **Marthaler Park Reconstruction**–After a delayed start, construction on the park has begun. Removal of the old parking lot/trails and the dead ash trees is complete. Preparation for grading of the site and the new utility installation is happening now. Installation of the new parking lot and shelter will begin soon.
 - iii. **Sports Dome**– The old turf has been removed and new turf has been laid inside the Sports Dome. The new field lines are being hand sewn into the new turf. After the field lines are completed, new rubber in-fill will be installed into the

turf. The project is on schedule to be completed by the end of July. The Sports Dome will reopen the first week of August.

c. Environmental Committee Liaison-NA

d. Commissioner's Park Updates-Bellows reported that a pickleball player at Southview Park said they needed the courts to be unlocked. Bellows noticed that the courts need some maintenance because of the weed growth in the court cracks. Member Hagler would like the drinking fountain returned to Harmon Park. Member Smock reported that the picnic tables in the back of Emerson Park are currently being flipped over and smashed together. Smock says the tables are being moved so that cars can drive up to the courts. Smock suggested having boulders placed along the parking lot. It is becoming a safety problem. Benches could also be placed in the courts for seating. Lynch reported that the trails on the north and south side of Mud Lake are becoming overgrown. Abrahamson commented on the poolside park; the smell from the trashcans is bad. He suggested moving the trashcans further away. The playground needs replacement, but it still gets used a lot. Hagler asked for more historical information about the pool. Murphy said that she would add it to next month's agenda. Smock would like to follow up with the Harmon Park issues.

6. Adjournment-The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon G. Hatfield
Administrative Specialist