

City of Scandia Park and Recreation Committee

October 3, 2011

Members Present: Alex Bildeaux, Tom Vogen, Dan Lee, Mike White, Matt Rasmussen

Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Administrator Anne Hurlburt, Recreation Coordinator Laurie Monson.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Chair Bildeaux.

Approval of Agenda: The addition was approved with no additions or changes. White, seconded by Lee, moved to amend the agenda by adding item 6 a), a discussion of the Copas/Log

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September 12, 2011 meeting were approved as written.

Lilleskogen Park Project Update: Alex will be picking up the logs that have been cut. The Fire Dept. indicated that they would take wood for the Halloween bonfire so suitably wood may be delivered there. The last work day scheduled at Lilleskogen was discussed. Only one resident showed up and there was no Park Committee member in charge, and no chemical (for killing buckthorn) available so the resident left. For future work days, we need a Committee member designated to be there. Since no one will be available on October 22, that work day will be cancelled. There will be one more work day this year, 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 12 at Wind in the Pines. Hurlburt will update the website.

City Council Meeting: Bildeaux reported that Laurie had presented her annual report on summer programs, which was well received.

Winter Recreation Programs: Monson reported that Matt Rasmussen has agreed to teach the "learn to skate" program. An "open skate" after school program is being considered. She will be making arrangements with the school's transportation department. The city is currently advertising for rink attendants.

Lighted Ballfield, Sign Placement: Lee reported that a location between the two pine trees was being considered, but the required 10-foot setback is a concern. Dan will check with the County highway department has more detailed information on the property/ROW boundary than is shown on the city's survey. If not, we may need to assume that the fence is on the property line and move the sign back. It may be necessary to remove a section or two of chain-link fencing so that the sign is visible. Lee will continue to work with Sally Swanson on this issue.

Lighted Ballfield, Grills: It appears that this project will be delayed until next spring.

Copas Landing Permitting: As discussed at the September 12 meeting, Hurlburt provided some background on past discussions and planning concerning the road to the landing (205th St.) White

summarized the concerns, which include congestion at the landing, parking on both sides of the road making access difficult, parking spilling onto nearby streets, a large number of non-Scandia residents using the landing, and the lacking of policing the possible transfer of zebra mussels on boats using the landing. White said he had contacted DNR Hydrologist Molly Shodeen and she suggested that the city designate both sides of the road “no parking” if the city wanted to limit use of the landing.

White suggested that committee including the DNR and Park Service could be formed to discuss the issue. Concern was expressed that there was not data documenting the problem. No one knows how many of the vehicles are not owned by Scandia residents. If the city issued permits to use the landing, that might create an expectation that the city would make improvements. The condition of the launch, which is not conducive to big boats, helps to limit use. White said that he wants to retain the access but it should be ‘cleaner.’

Mike White, seconded by Dan Lee, moved to recommend that the City Council designate one side of 205th Street, from the railroad tracks to the landing, as “no parking.”

Advantages of this approach would be to reduce the parking and thereby cut the traffic in half, and to maintain access for emergency vehicles which is a safety issue. If there would continue to be a problem additional actions could be considered.

Bildeaux called for a vote on the motion, which passed 4 to 1 (Vogen voting nay.)

Vinterfest: Next year’s event will be February 4, 2012. Publicity needs to go out the first week in January so planning needs to start soon. The consensus was that the same events held last year should be repeated, including the chili cook-off. Ribbons should be given as prizes. Bildeaux will make contact with a group to do a bake sale, and bring wood for the bonfire. Rasmussen will get prizes. Lee will provide hay bales for the sliding hill. Monson will help with publicity and with the snow-sculpting contest, which will offer cash prizes as in previous years. Hurlburt will provide Monson with the written materials from last year for update.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Anne Hurlburt, City Administrator