

**City of Scandia Parks and Recreation Committee
Special Meeting
Monday, February 28, 2018**

Members Present: Terry Gorham (Chair), Carol Schwinghammer, Cami Van Abel, Dan Lee

Arriving Late: Dustin Hegland (Vice Chair)

Absent: Jim Schneider

Staff Present: Judi Negus (Office Assistant) and Adam Hawkinson (Public Works Director)

Chair Gorham called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gorham requested the agenda be amended to combine agenda items 3 and 5 with the intention to have Committee review the List of Parks first, followed by reviewing the Lilleskogen Strategic Action Plan. **Motion by Lee, seconded by Schwinghammer, to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried 4-0.**

Gorham informed the City Council approved a budget transfer of \$100,000 to the Parks Improvement Fund.

REVIEW LIST OF PARKS

Schwinghammer provided Committee members with a spreadsheet summarizing park information described in the Comprehensive Parks, Trails, Open Space and Recreation Plan. Committee members reviewed each of the parks in the plan and made the following recommendations for potential opportunities:

Big Lake School Area

- Use as a rest stop/bike stop.
- Parking lot-start out with a gravel parking lot and consider future paving.
- Hitching post for horse riders.

Bone Lake Park

- Pursue wetland credits; partner with DNR.
- Island removal.
- Consider filtration project with the Watershed District.
- Install boardwalk; long-term goal.
- Provide signage and use as a nature area.

Children's T-Ball Field

- The "Lions" benches are deteriorating; seek a donation from the Scandia-Marine Lions Club.
- Just maintain for now.
- New signage similar to other City parks.

Creamery Run

- Leave as identified; undetermined.
- Included in the Gateway Trail plans?

Leonard Wojtowicz Skating Park

- Security enhancements; surveillance cameras and automatic locks on warming house.
- Replace skateboard equipment; not to be used by bikers.
- LED lighting; capital improvement project.
- Consider making an additional mite hockey rink to the south of the current pleasure rink.

Lion's Park at Hay Lake

- Install a water fountain with spigot.
- Consider future use of the parcel of land as a soccer field, horse arena, or dog park.

Scandia Ballpark (Lighted Field)

- Install concrete surrounding bleachers for easier maintenance.
- Install dugout covers over player bleachers.

New Scandia Community Center

- Include pickle ball courts in the tennis court reconstruction plans.
- Shuffleboard courts and horseshoe pits.
- Gravel path or paved path connection between Community Center and T-ball field.

Swedish Settler's Monument

- Assess who should be responsible for future enhancements; Washington County property?

Wind in the Pines Park

- Review trail signage to determine needs.

Orwell Avenue No. Parcel

- Non-motorized BMX track if community interest.

Orwell Circle Parcel

- Walk-in access for kayaking/canoeing.
- Campground.

Odell Parcel

- Prairie outdoor classroom.

REVIEW LILLESKOGEN STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN

Committee members reviewed the June 2016 Lilleskogen Strategic Action Plan and made the following recommendations for updates to the plan:

- *Completion of Parking Lot* – Leave as is; goals completed.

- *Wetland Restoration* - Include an action step to pursue wetland credit.
- *Completion of Trails* - Include an action step to install a culvert (east side) with a due date of 2018 and indicate spreading of wood chips as ongoing.
- *Clearing of Invasive Species* – Include an action step to remove buckthorn as ongoing.
- *Installation of Butterfly Gardens* – (Maintain for now; may consider new location. Gorham received an e-mail from Karen Schik suggesting removal of the current plantings.)
- Combine *Installation of Picnic Shelter* and *Completion of Outdoor Classroom* – Change to reflect installation of an amphitheater and council rings at various locations throughout the trail system. (Placement to be recommended upon determination of wetland limitations and with input from the DNR Forester if Lilleskogen becomes a School Forest.)
- *Installation of Boardwalk* – Change due date to 2019.
- *Wildflower Entrance Feature* – Leave as is.
- *Installation of Entrance Signs* – Change due date to 2018.
- *Installation of Interpretive Signs and Kiosk* – Change due date to 2020.
- *Installation of Park Benches* – Change due date to 2020.
- *Installation of Veterans Memorial* – Check as completed.

NOTE: In follow-up to the meeting, Chair Gorham wanted the minutes to be clarified by adding:

“Planning activity, to the benefit of the community, can commence in 2018. Before any new infrastructure work can commence, the boundaries for the wetlands need to be marked off, especially as it relates to size and placement of the pavilion/amphitheater. That will be coordinated with the City office and done as soon as is reasonable after snow melt and as frost conditions allow. PRC will review designs and comparable installations at nearby communities, and any available matching funds will be identified. Additional planning to the benefit of Scandia Elementary school and the larger school district, will depend upon commencement and further planning associated with the proposed School Forest.”

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lee, seconded by Hegland, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Negus
Office Assistant