

**CITY OF MENDOTA HEIGHTS
DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

MAY 10, 2005

The May 2005 meeting of the Mendota Heights Parks and Recreation Commission was held on Tuesday, May 10, 2005 in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1101 Victoria Curve. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following Commissioners were present: Chair Richard Spicer and Commissioners Dave Libra, Larry Craighead, Raymond Morris, Stan Linnell, and Paul Portz. Commissioner Missie Hickey was excused from the meeting. City Staff present were Parks Project Manager Guy Kullander, Recreation Programmer Teresa Gangelhoff, and Administrative Assistant Patrick C. Hollister. Mr. Hollister took the minutes.

MINUTES

Commissioner Morris moved approval of the April 12, 2005 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes.

Commissioner Portz seconded the motion.

AYES: 6
NAYS: 0

RECREATION PROGRAMMER'S REPORT

Ms. Gangelhoff provided an overview of this summer's recreation activities and the June 4, 2005 Celebrate Mendota Heights Parks event.

MENDOTA HEIGHTS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2006

Mr. Kullander informed the Commission that at the recent City Council goal setting workshop the Council indicated that they wished for the Parks Commission to take the lead in the planning for the 50TH Anniversary of the City of Mendota Heights in 2006. Mr. Kullander added that the Council thought that it might be good to fold the observance of the anniversary into the annual Parks Celebration.

Chair Spicer asked the other Commissioners if they preferred to observe the anniversary in conjunction with the Parks Celebration or hold a separate event.

The Commissioners generally agreed that it should be folded into the Parks Celebration.

Chair Spicer said that it would be nice to combine it with Mendakota's Fourth of July Celebration so that there would be fireworks as part of the event.

Mr. Kullander said that it would be possible to have fireworks the evening of the Parks Celebration if funding were available and if Mendakota Country Club would allow the City to use their property to shoot the fireworks.

Chair Spicer suggested contacting Mendakota Country Club to discuss using their property for a second fireworks display next year or to ask if they would consider moving their display to the first Saturday in June.

Mr. Kullander pointed out that in his memo he recommended forming a committee to meet on a regular basis to plan the anniversary observance next year, rather than trying to plan it during regular Parks Commission meetings. Mr. Kullander suggested including representatives from the Police Department, Fire Department, Dakota County CDA senior buildings, and major contributors to past Parks Celebrations.

Chair Spicer volunteered to serve on the committee and suggested meeting a half-hour before the Parks Commission meeting. Chair Spicer suggested that the first Committee meeting could be from 6:00-6:30 pm on June 14, 2005. Chair Spicer also suggested that Staff research combining the event with Ziggy's Spring Fling or with a car show. Chair Spicer asked Staff to remind him next month of the committee meeting so he will not forget.

OPUS REDEVELOPMENT OF ECOLAB SITE

Mr. Hollister reported that OPUS was still showing the trail along Wachtler Avenue and Highway 13 in accordance with the recommendations of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Hollister also said that it appeared to remain the preference of both the developer and the City thus far to provide the required Park Contribution in the form of cash rather than land. Mr. Hollister added that in a meeting between City Staff and OPUS on Monday afternoon, OPUS had indicated that as part of the trail installation along Wachtler Avenue some storm sewer improvements would have to be made, and that OPUS may be seeking to have the cost of the trail and the storm sewer improvements paid for out of the cash park contribution.

OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Kullander reported on the following additional items:

Mr. Kullander said that the Lexington Avenue Trail has been paved and restoration of turf is underway.

Mr. Kullander proposed rearrangement of some of the Parks Commission's previously identified priorities for playground equipment for 2006. Mr. Kullander said that he

would like to propose that refurbished play equipment from the year's project at Marie Park be installed at Valley View Heights Park and Mendakota Park next year instead of Victoria Highlands and Ivy Hills as previously planned.

The Commission indicated that Mr. Kullander was free to make his suggested revisions to the priority list, but that actual implementation of these projects would have to wait until the status of the potential influx of cash from the OPUS/EcoLab project is certain.

VERBAL UPDATES

Staff provided the following updates:

- Police Report

ADJOURN

Commissioner Portz moved to adjourn.
Commissioner Craighead seconded the motion.

AYES: 6
NAYS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.