



Parks and Trails Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

Attendees: Acting Chair Merrily Babcock, Sarah Randolph, Sarah Showalter, Bianca Jensen, Jon Erickson, Graciela Gonzalez, and Council Member Molly McDonald

Staff: Parks Planner, Nick Kieser

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Minor edits and additions were offered by Babcock and executed by staff. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Erickson, seconded by Randolph. Approved 6-0.
3. **Public Comments:** No public comments.
4. **Old Business.**
 - a. **Klapprich Park Design Development Discussion** – Staff gave an overview of the three updated concept plans that WSB created for Klapprich Park that were attached to the packet. The warming house concept plans were also reviewed by the Board. The lists below summarize the Board’s comments on the concept plans.

Warming House:

- Make the indoor space larger. This was the main theme of the warming house discussion. The Board wanted to see if there was an option for even more indoor space.
 - Can we utilize the storage space and add more storage space somewhere else?
 - Can we expand to the east/south more?
 - Board Member Babcock created an example concept plan that would add more space.
- Would like to see proposed locations of cubbies/storage areas/seating on the concept plans to get a better sense of how those would fit in and how much space that leaves.
- Liked the firepit/patio/plaza that is located outside the warming house for more gathering space outside.
- Liked the indoor/outdoor gas fireplace.

- Potential more space for rental skates or more information on how many skates the proposed area could hold. There was also discussion on if we truly want rental options at the warming house, but we want to leave the option in for now.
- Ensure the area expansion numbers on the concept plan are correct.

Klapprich Park Concept 1:

- Did not like the eastern paved ADA trail. Wanted to keep this area more open and have less pavement.
- No parking on the eastern side.
- Like the idea of a flexible field/open grass area.
- Make the playground bigger. For reference, the new beach playground has a footprint of just under 6,000 sq. ft. so the Board wanted to see a larger playground area. Potentially more playground sections based on children's age.
- Like the location of the playground on the western side of the Park near the warming house.
- Like the parking on the western side of the park to utilize the added amenities on that side, ADA access, and potential more usage of the warming house during non-winter seasons.
 - Make the warming house more usable in all seasons which the playground location would be great.
- Like the storm water basin areas to keep them out of the way.
 - Especially like the storm water basin to the southeast area of the hockey rink.

Klapprich Park Concept 2:

- Like the idea of the Nature Trail on the eastern side, but not the paved trail. Ensure the trail does not impact the trees.
- Like the idea of a stairway to connect to the north of the Park, but thought the stairs would make more sense straight south of the Bell Courts cabana to connect Bell Courts and Klapprich Park better.
- The trail/sidewalk connection on the north side of the ice rink is an important link from the western side to the eastern side.
- No parking again on the east side.
- Potential boardwalk for the nature trail if needed. Again, just ensure the trail does not impact trees and there are not erosion concerns if we add a trail connection to the north side of the hockey rink as a connection from east to west.

Klapprich Park Concept 3:

- Like the idea of having the eastern side open with just picnic/seating areas.
- Keep the same warming house with expansion to the existing building. A new building would not work financially and does not make a significant enough positive impact to allocate additional funds. Board did like the idea of more parking on the western side though with the new location.

- Again, noted to have a trail connection from Bell Courts to the play area on the north side of the hockey rink is important.
- Keep dog park/hockey rink.
- Board liked the idea of keeping a backstop in the area shown but keeping the field more flexible. Do not put any dirt or mounds/bases for the ball field so the field can be used for many activities.

Overall:

- Keep the warming house location, but look to expand the indoor space even more.
- Like moving the playground near the warming house so that can be utilized during the summer. Look at options to increase the playground space.
- Like the flexible field idea with a backstop.
- No parking on the eastern side, but adding as many parking spaces on the western side makes sense.
- Adding a patio/firepit/gathering space outside the warming house and near the playground is a good idea for parents looking after their kids.
- Keep the eastern side open/natural with picnic areas and benches. Adding a natural trail is a good idea.
- Important connection from Bell Courts and northeast corner of the Park to the western side via a trail/stairway that is on the north side of the ice rink areas.
- The less pavement the better. More natural trails are better where it makes sense.

b. Earth Day Recap – Board Member Babcock gave an update on the Earth Day event that was held on April 22 from 1:00pm – 3:00pm at City Hall. This event included free tree saplings, potted tree drawing giveaway, children book reading, book sale, and educational materials. The potted tree giveaway drawing was a significant attraction for the community.

c. Spring Splash – Board Members Showalter and Jensen will represent the Parks and Trails Board at the Spring Splash event that is to be held on Saturday, May 27. Staff will help get materials together that can be used at the event.

5. Other Business.

a. Communications Recap – Staff will start promoting the July 11 Klapprich Park Community Meeting. In addition, staff will also create a promotion plan for the Sunday Music in the Park concerts that are to be held in August.

b. Staff updates –

- The five Adirondack chairs have been ordered.
- Staff is working with WSB to create the construction documents for the Middle School and Bell Courts Tennis Courts to start either the bidding or quote process.
- The Board discussed the beach playground equipment item. Board Member Babcock brought forward a letter created by Chair Schalkle that described the Board’s understanding of the beach playground equipment cost. That letter is attached to the minutes and was signed by all Board Members present.

6. **Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. The next Parks and Trails Board meeting is on June 21.

WAYZATA BEACH PLAYGROUND

•MN/WI

•In multiple conversations with Board, Harlan from MN/WI explicitly mentioned the GT Wave (net climber) would be included as free. He said this was a new item, and wanted to use Wayzata's new playground as a backyard "showcase" for it for other cities

•Board meetings where Harlan presented were recorded (they were all during the Pandemic), but staff was only able to find one recorded meeting. Other conversations between Board and Harlan were part of subcommittee conversations, so they were not recorded nor did they have minutes.

•It was partially due to MN/WI's emphasis on having Wayzata be a showcase and including this notable item for free that we selected them. It was certainly the reason we selected the climber (GTWave), and also was part of the reason we prioritized updating the Beach playground before Klapprich (even though Klapprich was much older and more in need of updates).

•After numerous conversations and community engagement, the Board and MN/WI finalized a design, including all of the specific items to include in the new playground. MN/WI sent a proposed bill of material for that final design - detailing out each item that would be in the playground and its cost (down to the detail of a \$60.00 "Owner's Kit"). That proposal included the GTWave net climber at no charge - reflecting the understood intention to include it for no cost. This proposal was approved by Board and by Council.

•When the final invoices were sent by MN/WI, Board Chair Schalkle verified with Mike Kelly that we were not charged for the net climber. When Mike confirmed we were not, Schalkle asked if we're sure other items weren't upcharged to make up for the subsidized item. Mike Kelly confirmed other items were charged at catalog rates and not upcharged.

•When the Board became increasingly frustrated with MN/WI's construction delays, it discussed not going forward with them as a vendor for Klapprich's playground update. During that discussion, Staff Member Keiser confirmed deselecting MN/WI for Klapprich was allowable under our agreement and there was no remaining contingent costs.

•The Board was informed of MN/WI's bill for the item on Apr 28, 2023. Although it's the Council's decision, it was fully the Board's understanding that this item would be included at no cost, based on Harlan's explicit verbal indication of that, and a Bill of Materials that reflects that.

Jack Rung

Jon Erickson

Steve Allett

ex. by B. Babcock

Re. Graciela Gonzalez