

AGENDA
CITY OF DAYTON, MINNESOTA
12260 So. Diamond Lake Road, Dayton, MN 55327
Tuesday, January 5, 2021
REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS COMMISSION: 6:30 P.M.

To Participate in the Meeting, Please see www.cityofdaytonmn.com Calendar for Zoom Invitation.

- 6:30 I **CALL TO ORDER**
- 6:30 II **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 6:30 III **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 6:30 IV **VOTE FOR CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**
- 6:30 V **CONSENT AGENDA** *These routine or previously discussed items are enacted with one motion. Minutes can be approved by those absent from meeting.*
- A. Approval of Park Commission Minutes from 10-6-2020
- VI **OPEN FORUM** *Limited to 3 minutes for non-agenda items; state your name and address; No action will be taken and items will be referred back to staff and/or Council.*
- 6:35 VII **REGULAR MEETING**
- B. Goal Setting Discussion
- 7:15 VIII **NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- C. Next Park Commission Meeting
- 1 Parks Meeting Tentatively schedule February 3rd, 2021.
- 7:20 IX **ADJOURNMENT**

The City of Dayton's mission is to promote a thriving community and to provide residents with a safe and pleasant place to live while preserving our rural character, creating connections to our natural resources, and providing customer service that is efficient, fiscally responsible, and responsive.



MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2020 PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
CITY OF DAYTON, MINNESOTA

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:30 PM

Present: Park Commission Members: Chair David Fashant, Doug Baines, and Jack Prom

Absent: David Kline and Jack Jacobs

City Council Members Present: Jon Mellberg

Also, in attendance: City Administrator Tina Goodroad, Associate Planner Alec Henderson; Public Works Superintendent Marty Farrell, Activity Center Coordinator Teresa Schmiedlin

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Baines requested a discussion on water trails be added to the agenda.

*Prom motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Baines.
Motion carried.*

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Parks Commission Minutes from 08-04-2020

Fashant requested a change to the minutes on Page 2, Item C – “Jacobs stated the City could put out information ~~projects~~ packets such as maps instead of amenities.”

*Baines motioned to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Prom.
Motion carried.*

IV. OPEN FORUM

Open Forum is no longer broadcast.

V. STAFF UPDATES

Staff had nothing to report.

Prom requested the sunflower fields be cleaned up.

VI. REGULAR MEETING

B. Discussion on Sunflower Field – Alternate Location

Farrell reported the results of the neighborhood survey on the Sunflower Fields. He stated in some ways it was a success and some ways it was a learning experience.

Farrell stated the biggest issue was traffic. He proposed the alternate location of Cloquet Overlook Park using Stephens Park for overflow parking.

The Park Commission discussed locations for the Sunflower Fields for 2021.

Prom motioned to recommend to Council not to use Leathers Park for the sunflower field in the future, seconded by Fashant. Motion carried 2 ayes, 1 nay (Baines).

C. Discussion on Future of Leathers Park – Possible Improvements

Farrell stated Leathers Park is underutilized and the Commission can discuss options for adding amenities to it. The Commission discussed which amenities would be appropriate for Leathers Park. Goodroad stated staff will research options during the winter and contact the neighborhood in the spring to see what they would like at Leathers.

D. Park Construction Update (River Hills, Stephens Farm, Sundance Woods)

Farrell presented a drone video of Stephens Farm and River Hills showing past and current status. He provided an update on the three parks and stated they are all close to completion. Goodroad announced the City will plan a ribbon cutting ceremony at Stephens Park, including the connection to River Hills, towards the end of October.

E. CIP Review

Goodroad presented the CIP Park Dedication Fund 405 and the CIP Park Trail Development Fund 408. She stated there are large expenditures in 2020 due to the development of three parks. Goodroad explained the City saw big savings when bundling park construction together and recommended doing the same for future park development. Goodroad said the funds are in a good position due to development.

F. Update on Community Playfield Search

Goodroad explained the City is searching for land for a Community Playfield and has options in the north and south end of the City. She stated the talks with the landowners are being kept confidential.

G. Discussion on Water Trails

Baines stated the City can be unique if they create and market a water trail in Dayton for kayaks, canoes, and small boats. He suggested Stephens Farm and the disc golf course as access points. Baines recommended working with Cities along the Crow and Mississippi Rivers. The Commission supported exploring this opportunity further.

VII. NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

H. Next Park Commission Meeting

- a. Parks Meeting must be rescheduled or canceled as November 3rd is election day. No public meetings may be held on November 3rd.

The Commission supported moving the November 3 meeting to Stephens Farm Park at a date to be determined by City Council to coincide with the ribbon cutting event.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Baines motioned to adjourn, seconded by Prom. Motion carried.

Adjournment at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Kunza
Recording Secretary
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc

ITEM:

Goal Setting Discussion

PREPARED BY:

Alec Henderson, Planner

BACKGROUND:

In February of 2020, the Parks Commission and City Council held a joint goal setting session related to parks. Attached to this report is the goal setting responses from 2020. The objective of this item is to review 2020 goals and accomplishments and set goals for 2021.

ATTACHMENTS:

2020 Park Goals

2020 PARKS GOAL SETTING [accomplishments in red]:

SHORT TERM OBJECTIVES

1. Parks Commission Duties in 2020:

- What should the Parks Commission be discussing or focusing on in 2020 (CIP funding recommendations)?
 - Elsie Stephens Park phasing- **Phase 1 completed in 2020**
 - Combining Elsie Stephens Park with Cloquet overlook
 - Continued funding priority for Elsie Stephens Park
 - New development
 - Elsie Stephen's Park, possible underpasses (other than existing plans), revitalizing old parks or updating/changing them- **underpass and trail between Cloquet and Stephens completed in 2020**
 - Parks should be reviewed once a year (even ones not built yet), with a "deep dive" on three or four of them.
 - Existing parks that need refreshing with new equipment, signs and facilities
 - Leathers, Donahue Dells, Old Orchards- **improvements will be made to Donahue Dells park in 2021 at the same time as Hayden Hills Park**
 - Old Orchards boardwalk- **construction started in 2020 and will be completed in 2021**
 - Land Acquisitions- **priority for 2021; look into marketing firm- letters to specific landowners**
 - DNR Landings- **staff to work on this in 2021. DNR has initial plans started.**
- What Topics or speakers should be on the 2020 docket:
 - DNR
 - Diamond Lake Master plan tie in **[Scheduling Three Rivers early 2020]**
 - Three Rivers activities so we know more about what they are planning and what they do so we do not duplicate. Additionally, know more about how their long-range plans impact Dayton

-
- Mississippi Paddle Share Program: meeting with them early this year to understand this opportunity and any barriers to have this in Dayton
 - Tie in at Stephens
 - CDAA Needs [CDAA presentation occurred in 2020]
 - Funding update from them if we get land for future athletic fields.
 - National Park Service regarding Mississippi National River and Recreation Area comprehensive management plan (anytime)
 - Representative from neighbor cities to share what they have done/learned related to parks – Champlin, Maple Grove, Brooklyn Park, Elk River?
 - Walk new or undeveloped park land to better understand lay of the land.
 - What events should be considered to improve Park Commission functions:
 - Walk new or undeveloped park land to better understand lay of the land.
 - Tour of existing parks (or neighbor city parks?). Focus more attention on older parks that need attention.
 - History of each park: origin, improvements, citizen use/complaints, etc.
 - What other discussions or focuses Parks Commission should be having to continue to be effective?
 - Acquisition of land for community park
 - Learning more about funding opportunities/research grant opportunities
 - Should look at how the Parks can help maintain rural “feel” of Dayton as it transforms from farming to residential/commercial properties in the decades to come
 - Meeting at least every other month
 - Understand the existing HOA parks and how they are managed

LONG TERM VISIONING AND GOALS

2. FUTURE PROJECTS LIST

- Goodin Park- joint effort with Three Rivers
- Leathers Park- develop a plan
- Hayden Hills Park- develop a plan
- Diamond Lake Master Plan
 - * Landing (safer)
 - * Sub-watershed assessment connections (open space plan that is recreational and water quality improving)
- Park Referendum?
- Elsie Stephens Park- continue phased construction
- More concrete work plan for existing parks (list of parks, timing, and how we want to work with neighbors to improve or rehab)
- Funding plan for parks?
- Utilize resident volunteers for park improvements- installations, landscaping, etc.
- Develop policy/procedure for donations; fund-raising – standards for items and costs such as benches.
- Acquisition of land along Mississippi River
- Acquisition of ROW for construction of West Mississippi regional trail

3. In the year 2040 (20 years from now) Dayton is poised to have over 10,500 residents (according to conservative Met Council projections).

- What should the Park and Trail System look like?
 - Most citizens should be connected to the river and the parkway. It should be clean, well landscaped and have some interesting places for people in town to go. We should probably have a history center or something that speaks to the history of Dayton in that town center. Could also be a good place for a tourist stop (what to do here, why to live here, etc).
 - A community playfield should be built by then. Vast tracts of connecting trails should thread the city.
 - Relatively direct trails should connect all major parks

- Boardwalks in wetlands
- Trap shooting park
- Splash pad
- Canoe/kayak along the river
- Dirt bike/mountain bike areas
- Dog park(s)
- Concert areas
- Facilities appropriate for wedding receptions
- Key parkland around lakes/river should be acquired
- Some community spaces, such as an amphitheater should exist
- Connected to the neighborhoods, Mississippi River, and Elm Creek Park reserve. Well maintained equipment and facilities that residents can be proud of.
- It should connect north to south and east to west with at least those two major n-s & e-w connections
- Multiple entries to Elm creek via Fernbrook and co rd 121 [Completing three entries in 2021, substantially complete in 2020]
- What kind of recreation opportunities might exist in Dayton?
 - You can rent a kayak or canoe or tube to go down the river from one park to another. You can climb a tower and hope to see the eagles on the river. Hire a guide to do a nature walk or do guided fishing on the river. You can ride your bike or walk on connected trails; you can get to the elm creek parkway on foot.
 - Hiking, biking, river views, disc golf (multiple!), sports (football, baseball, soccer)
 - River (canoe, fishing, etc), biking, concerts/festivals, hunting, horse riding & Snowmobiling
 - Paddle share
 - Camping
 - Tennis, pickleball, soccer, etc
 - Rock climbing

- There are emerging sports that may welcome flexible space in our parks. Old fashioned sports are also making a come-back. Encouraging athletics beyond the top five sports will serve as a magnet to park users.
- Full park and rec department

4. LONG TERM PROJECT LIST

- Complete Elsie Stephens Park with an amphitheater and river access, shelters, and the trails connecting back into the city.
 - Farmers market
- Right of way and trails along major sectors, and a new community playfield
- Purchase land on Diamond lake to be developed as a multi-use park.
- Purchase equipment to fully complete community playfield complex.
- Prioritize trail construction and unfunded trail to park connections with road construction.
- Land acquisition, specifically around the lakes.
- Land for an athletic fields
- Perhaps a water feature/splash pad

GOAL	2020-2021: Actions	Five Years: Actions	Ten Years: Action
Create a connected park and trail system with year-round recreation and opportunities for residents to connect with nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a Kayak Rental Facility • <u>Identify ROW needs for construction of West Miss. Regional Trail</u> • <u>Prepare a Stephens Farm Implementation Priority/Funding Plan (CIP) Construction of Phase 1 improvements (partial) -Stephens Farm</u> • Construction of Elm Creek Park access points (Rush Creek Pkwy; Co. Rd. 121) • Acquire or accept donation of land for community park • <u>Identify location for tree farm</u> • <u>Construction of River Hills Park</u> • <u>Construction of underpass and Three Rivers trail</u> • <u>Complete Sundance Woods Park</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued construction of Stephens Farm amenities based on CIP • West Mississippi Regional Trail on Dayton River Road (Construction of Segments) • <u>Develop a tree farm for use at parks and parkways</u> • <u>Construct park at Hayden Hills</u> • <u>Construction of community park (phases)</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Mississippi Regional Trail on Dayton River Road (Construction of Segments) • Continue construction of Stephens Farm amenities based on CIP • All residents access by foot to Elm Creek Park Reserve (trail construction) • Park Referendum • Continued city-wide trail development • <u>Construction of community park (last phase)</u>

Note: this goal comes directly from the City Council goals. The Council Goals look at a variety of aspects (including parks) for the next two years, five years, and ten years.