

**AGENDA**  
**CITY OF DAYTON, MINNESOTA**  
**12260 So. Diamond Lake Road, Dayton, MN 55327**  
**Tuesday, October 6, 2020**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS COMMISSION: 6:30 P.M.**

**To Participate in the Meeting, Please see [www.cityofdaytonmn.com](http://www.cityofdaytonmn.com) Calendar for Zoom Invitation.**

- 6:30     **I**     **CALL TO ORDER**
- II**     **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 6:30     **III**     **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 6:30     **IV**     **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 8-4-2020
- V**     **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.*
- VI**     **STAFF UPDATE**
- VII**    **REGULAR MEETING**
- 6:35           **B.**     Discussion on sunflower field - alternate location
- 6:55           **C.**     Discussion on future of Leathers Park - possible improvements
- 7:30           **D.**     Park construction update (River Hills, Stephens Farm, Sundance Woods)
- 7:45           **E.**     CIP review
- 8:00           **F.**     Update on Community Playfield search
- VIII**   **NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 8:15           **G.**     Next Park Commission Meeting
- 1     Parks Meeting must be rescheduled or canceled as November 3rd is election day. No public meetings may be held on November 3rd.
- 8:20     **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 AUGUST 4, 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 (remote), David Kline (remote), Jack Prom, Jack Jacobs

Absent: none

City Council Members Present: Jon Mellberg (remote)

Also, in attendance: City Administrator Tina Goodroad, Associate Planner, Alec Henderson; Public Works Superintendent, Marty Farrell, City Clerk Amy Benting (remote)

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Fashant requested Open Forum be added to the agenda.

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

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval of Parks Commission Minutes from 06-02-2020

*Prom motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Jacobs.  
Motion carried.*

**IV. OPEN FORUM**

No one present for open forum in person or remotely.

**V. STAFF UPDATES**

Henderson reminded the Commission to complete the DNR survey for Diamond Lake Regional Trail.

Farrell updated the Commission on park construction projects for Sundance, Riverhills, Stevens, and the Three Rivers Park District trail extension. He informed the Commission the sunflowers are in full bloom and are getting a lot of attention.

**VI. REGULAR MEETING**

B. Donahue Dells Park – Review Concept Plans

Kangas presented options for the Commission to review. Kangas presented Option A, with a seating area between the water and the playground. Kangas presented Option B with a slightly different layout and two playground areas. Kangas stated both options preserve trees and take advantage of the existing elements. Kangas

stated a \$200,000 maximum for the project is practical. Goodroad stated the Council has had discussions about using the General Fund for improvements to existing parks and reserve Park Dedication Funds for building new parks. She stated if this is something the Commission would like to pursue, she suggested they provide a recommendation to Council. She stated it would be hard to fund this project from the General Fund and she is not in full agreement with the Council.

Kline stated the Park Dedication Fund will eventually dry up and asked if staff thought Council would gradually increase funds set aside for park improvements each year. Goodroad stated the City would set up a new fund so it can accumulate funds over time. Mellberg stated he was in support of gradually increasing funds and planning for the future. Fashant stated the City needs a plan to have funds available for replacement and maintenance.

Goodroad asked the Commission if they would like to see Donahue Dells completed in 2021.

*Prom motioned to recommend to Council constructing Donahue Dells in 2021, seconded by Jacobs. Motion carried.*

Goodroad asked the Commission which Option they preferred. The Commission reached consensus on favoring Option B.

Baines stated the Commission should be cautious that funds allocated to parks remains with parks and not used elsewhere. Goodroad replied that Park Dedication Funds can only be used for parks. She recommended that if Council decided to allocate additional funds to parks, that a new fund category be created which restricts the funds to parks only.

#### C. Review Park Amenities List

Farrell reviewed the changes to the park amenity list. He stated staff worked with Kangas to estimate the cost range and popularity of the amenities. Kangas added his input to the spreadsheet. Kline asked Kangas if he recommended pursuing any specific amenity in Dayton. Kangas stated Dayton has opportunities with the River and Elm Creek Park and does not recommend duplicating anything. Kangas stated trails are popular and always will be popular. He explained that pickleball is gaining in popularity but does not need to be at every park. Baines suggested working with the DNR and cities along the river to build a water trail. Fashant stated the Commission accomplished their goal by completing the Parks Amenity List and plan to use it as a resource.

Kline asked Kangas about trail amenities, such as water and bike maintenance stations since trails are popular and will remain popular. Kangas stated trail amenities typically are added in phase two of development. Jacobs stated this amenity list will come in handy as donations come in. Jacobs stated the City could put out information projects such as maps instead of amenities.

Prom asked Farrell for an update on the barn. Farrell stated it looks bad from the outside, but it has good bones and the City has done some repairs to it. Farrell stated staff are searching for funding and researching getting on the historical list. Prom asked the City look at the access to Stevens Park and make it safer.

**VII. NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

D. Next Park Commission Meeting

1. Next Park Commission Meeting Tentatively Scheduled for 09-01-2020

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*From motioned to adjourn, seconded by Jacobs. Motion carried.*

***Adjournment at 7:40 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Kunza  
Recording Secretary  
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc

**Question 1: Now that the fields have closed, what should our next step be?**

<b>Keep</b>	<b>Mow</b>	<b>Comments</b>
x		
	x	
x		
x		please keep up to attract wild life
x		attract wildlife
x		
x		
x		
	x	mow and replace with grass
	x	prevent people from going in there and doing stupid things
x	x	keep them through fall for bird seed, but mow down before winter as it will be an eye sore
x	x	either is fine
x		butterflies and bees take advantage of flowers
	x	
x		attract wildlife
x		keep them up for wild life
	x	I would like to see them harvested and possibly open the field to local tractor enthusiast for a plow day
x		wild life
	x	make it into a usable park like it should be - not a tourist attraction

<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>
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**Question 2: Please number from least to worst, least being 1 and worst being 5 the issues caused by sunflowers**

Traffic Issues	Parking Issues	Noise Issues	Trash Damage	Trespassing
5	4	1	2	3
5	4	1	2	3
5	4	3	2	1
3	4			
5	4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4	5
5	4	3	2	1
4	5	1	2	3
2	4	1	5	3
5	4	1	3	2
3	1		2	
4	5	2	3	1
1	1	3	2	1
1	2	4	5	3
5	4	1	3	2
5	1	1	1	1
5	3	1	2	4
<b>64</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>34</b>

### Question 3: What are your thoughts on repeating sunflower season?

The sunflowers shouldn't be planted in a residential areas. Parking traffic needs to be considered. Not in support of sunflowers next year

Although the intent was fun, the coordination was absent. Mayor took credit for sunflowers which explains total lack of attention paid to the neighborhood regarding traffic control/parking. An after thought as residents put up signs/dealt with garbage

I hope you can do it again. I thank the neighbors who live nearby for putting up with the additional traffic. I am also a little jealous that those nearby got to watch them grow.

Yes! It was a nice to see and have this year and a good use of empty space!

Please repeat for next year. Brings beauty to the park and new experience for many.

Unsure, we loved seeing them but did not like all the traffic/people it brought to the neighborhood. I would not repeat this next year.

Actually, we would prefer that leathers park be turned into a dog park. We've talked to other residents and many of us have dogs and would enjoy a fenced in area for them to play.

Not in wildwood springs/middle of neighborhood - put in location that can better handle traffic and parking

As beautiful as they are, they should not be planted in the middle of a residential area. Please do not repeat next year.

Sure, if there's no cost to Dayton or taxpayers! I don't want to start paying for sunflowers when there are so many other issues that need attention and we're already taxed for

It would be fine with us. 2 weeks is not an intolerable amount of time to disrupt the quiet of the neighborhood.

Yes please repeat it. I liked having two fields close together with different types of sunflowers. It was convenient for the visitors to have such a variety.

Please DO NOT do it again. Not at leathers park!

I think it is such a cool idea so I think it would be fun it is repeated. It's fun to look in my backyard and see all the sunflowers.

Re: leathers park - you should be talking with the people who live on balsam and those with connecting property as it was too much traffic for residential neighborhood

If the parking traffic (speed) logistics were improved, we would be ok with it. Need more parking and speed limit signs/enforcement

Something for the kids to do

Absolutely do NOT do it on Balsam Lane!! Do it in a more rural area.

Against	For
1	
	1
	1
	1
1	
1	
	1
	1
1	
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

## Question 4: What did you like the most about the sunflowers?

I would like it better if they were located in a more commercial setting. Keep them out of residential areas

The tall field is just stunning on a sunny day. I will plant a few sunflowers in my own yard next year.

Nice view, good photo opportunities close to home and FREE

Enjoyed the maze. They were beautiful and made good use of the field (park wasn't being used) Provided a place for people to go while dealing with COVID

Very pretty to see. In a year where there is a lot that has been of concern and changes it was nice to have something go see.

It was fun to see them grow as we walk/bike through the neighborhood regularly. The blooms were lovely for photos and attracted a ton of bees

We drove from Woodbury to walk among the sunflowers, take photos and watch the busy bees up close

Looks nice

I did enjoy walking through the fields - they were definitely beautiful - they just shouldn't be in a residential neighborhood.

I live on hemlock, right up the corner from Balsam and I loved walking/biking from the beginning - watching them grow up, taking pictures as they popped up and the sheer volume/beautiful of them once they matured.

The use of the park for something. We most enjoyed the time before and after the people are gone and walking by the sunflowers

The fields were beautiful as were the photos people posted on FB about them. It was such a nice gesture for Johnny to provide this at no charge. It was a bright spot in a black year and showed humanity can be good

Nothing

They are so pretty! Its cool it is right behind our house and its fun to hear all the chatter of the people knowing they are enjoying the field.

Not as boring as a plain field not being used for anything

It was a nice addition to the neighborhood to watch them bloom and grow. Makes Dayton feel like a nice caring town.

For families to take the kids

Nothing

## Question 5: Other comments or observations

I would like to understand how these fields benefit dayton? What was the expectation?

Please get a port-a-potty on Balsam Ln site. Lots of small kids and people coming in asking for restrooms

I could not comment on the issues as I am over near the park in riversbend area. I did notice how excited everyone was at they got our of the cars, brought their children and walked in the field.

Thank you!

Parking was an issue, Do not have parking spaces marked on field and no parking signs on private property. Managable for 12-14 days but more space was needed

Who is going to pay for the road wear and tear??

The traffic during the weekends where the field was open was crazy! Cars parked along both sides on the street - it was difficult to bike through the area. We would be willing to approach local businesses to sponsor a dog park

It brought our family some joy in these difficult days and we appreciate it

The impact on the property owners adjacent to the sunflower field was negative. Traffic, parking and trespassing. Also for people living on Balsam it created constant traffic during the day. Most people were likely not from Dayton. Vandalism, theft, litter and dog poop

We didn't appreciate people using our horseshoe driveway as a turn around. People are slobs and they left tons of trash in and around the fields. Too many people and not the proper place for it.

SO MUCH TRAFFIC! I realize the fields are a popular decision, but wow I don't think anyone was expecting the traffic and parking to be so crazy.

Could the City help with some decent/consistent "no parking" signage so people know where NOT to park? Need to go up on Hemlock too.

Put extra trash cans out. A lot of discarded masks on the ground, sadly.

I think it is most important that those with property right by the field are not disturbed by the activity. It is a quite a change from the quiet we are all used to, but it also is entertaining.

Very grateful for the City providing garbage cans, port-a-potty and picnic tables at Leathers park. It was a nice reflection of the community

Thank you for posting the do not park signs on lawns. It helped a lot. During the weekend "sunset golden hours" people were so impatient to get parked that they parked between the signs@ Perhaps a patrol car coming by during that time would prevent bad behavior

Encourage people to pick up after their dogs. At times the maze got pretty stinky with the dog poo.

Maybe add a food truck at rain tree plaza? There isn't enough room by leathers park but perhaps up at the plaza would encourage people to relax and enjoy dayton

To have this at leathers park is ridiculous. There no parking or cub on that street so people parked on my lawn.

I have never heard of these sunflower fields until this year and one happened to be right behind our house which I thought was pretty awesome! Really cool and fun idea overall. Thanks for everyone involved.

A lot of traffic in residential area

There was mention of a food truck at one time, we felt that would ruin the nice non-commercial feel of the public park/attraction

Whoever had this idea for a sunflower field they should have it on their street. Its things like this that make people want to vote out the present mayor and council members

City of Dayton City Council, and Park Commission Members:

RE: Sunflower planting at Leather's Park

Our experience with the Sunflower planting was difficult, and required patience. Please consider this as a response to the survey sent by City Staff. Problems included, and were not limited to:

1. Traffic was so heavy, that it became a public hazard. From our experience, traffic, and parking was not addressed, unless we called police, or City Hall. I needed to repair "No Parking" signs several times. If I waited for Public Works to repair signs, parking became a larger problem. On some occasions, people drove over "No Parking" signs.
2. Traffic congestion, and excessive parking, was a significant hazard because of the large number of people walking around cars, and crossing the street, for photographs of people on private property, landscaping, on fences, and in front of buildings.
3. Residents who walk each day along Balsam Lane expressed concern about hazards, due to amount of traffic.
4. On a several of occasions, drivers that appeared to be frustrated, would speed.
5. We were fortunate that no one was harmed.
6. People would come to the park, before dawn, and some stayed past dusk. On occasions, people would use the toilet past 10:00PM.
7. Mud near the street, across from our driveway, was been tracked onto the street. On one occasion, I needed to tell young people to stop driving 4 wheelers through the mud.
8. Noise was a problem, with people talking loudly after dusk.
9. Trash was a problem. I needed to pick up trash on our property several times.
10. Although Sunflower planting is closed, people continue to come to the park. When they see the Sunflowers are no longer attractive, they come onto our property for photographs.
11. People often went onto nearby property, for photographs, and turning vehicles around, to the extent that we felt uncomfortable about leaving our home.
12. Survey sent by City Staff was brief, and appears to assume Sunflowers planting will be done next year.

The City proposed options described for this fall:

1. do not address appearance of Sunflowers as they droop, decay, are blown down, and partly covered with snow,
2. will attraction of nuisance animals, like mice, and coyotes, and apparently,
3. no coherent plan exists that will to address the large amount of decaying crop vegetation.

Comments regarding the Cities future plans for Leather's Park:

1. I attended both Planning Commission, and City Council Meeting, when Rolling Rivers Estates development went to public hearing, and final approvals. Leather's Park was proposed to be a local neighborhood park, and Comprehensive Plan shows Leather's Park as a neighborhood park.
2. Comprehensive Plan describes uses of neighborhood parks as recreational in nature, to serve populations of 200 to 1000 residents, service residents within ¼ to ½ mile distance, and be 5 to 25 acres in area. Sunflower planting did not meet these requirements.

3. Comprehensive Plan change for Leather's Park from a neighborhood park will require public hearing process, and likely include a traffic study.
4. The use of Leather's for Sunflower planting resulted in the park being used as a regional park, not as a neighborhood park. Many thousand people from across the region, with hundreds of vehicles, attended the Sunflower planting.
5. This was done without formal public notice, public meeting, impact assessment, or traffic study.
6. Leather's Park is only 2.56 acres, has limited surfaced parking, no local sidewalks, on a sharp turn in the road, no bathrooms (only one portable toilet was placed for event), and Balsam Lane road surface is only 25 feet wide.
7. Changing Leather's Park from neighborhood, to regional park use, would be information that would need to be disclosed to any person who would consider purchase of our property. This would lower our property value.

Due to numerous public safety and nuisance issues, impact of property use, and property value; we are opposed to the further use of Leather's Park for Sunflower planting. Other City property would better suite a future Sunflower planting.

Joe and Mary Pazandak

14100 Balsam Lane North

Dayton, MN 55327

City of Dayton, Minnesota  
 Capital Improvement Plan - Park Dedication Fund 405  
 Schedule of Planned Capital Outlay 2020 to 2030

Department	Paid By	Replacement Year	Item	Cost	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
					Estimated Amounts										
Parks and Recreation	City	2020	Complete Sundance Woods Park	\$ 139,686	\$ 139,686	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Parks and Recreation	City	2020	River Hills Park Development	362,216	362,216	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2020	Stephens Park Improvements- first phase	376,797	376,797	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2021	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2021	Donahue Dells	185,000	-	185,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2022	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2022	Hayden Hills Park	500,000	-	-	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2023	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2023	Stephen Farm Phase 2	500,000	-	-	-	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2024	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	-	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2024	Neighborhood Park Area 21	500,000	-	-	-	-	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2025	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2026	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2026	Neighborhood Park (growth area)	600,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	600,000	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2027	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2028	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2029	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	150,000	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2029	Construction of Community Playfield Complex	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000	-
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2030	Purchase land for Sports complex	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	150,000
Parks and Recreation	City/CDA	2030	Construction of Community Playfield Complex	1,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000,000
					\$ 878,699	\$ 335,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 1,150,000

Added as a placeholder funding for land purchase in 2021 and continuing through 2030  
 Sundance Woods, River Hills and first phase of Stephens will be constructed in 2020 with possible final finishing spring 2021  
 Added a new neighborhood park in 2026 - this location would be in response to growth

DRAFT

City of Dayton, Minnesota  
 Capital Improvement Plan - Park Trail Development Fund 408  
 Schedule of Planned Capital Outlay 2020 to 2030

Department	Paid By	Replacement Year	Item	Cost	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
					Estimated Amounts										
Parks and Recreation	City	2020	Stephens Farm Trails- First Phase construction; River Hills and Sundance Woods	\$ 156,200	\$ 156,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Parks and Recreation	City	2020	Pedestrian Crossing at Jonquil Lane	170,000	170,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	Three Rivers	2020	Pineview Lane and Oakview Lane Improvements	622,000	622,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	Three Rivers	2021	River Road Trail (Historic Village to Stephens Farm)	250,000	-	250,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2021	Donahue Dells	12,000	-	12,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2021	Easement Acquisition for West Miss Reg Trail	50,000	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2021	Trail on Northside of CR 144 (missing link along River Hills)	100,000	-	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2022	Easement Acquisition for West Miss Reg Trail	50,000	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2022	Pineview Ln (SDLR to 137th)	325,000	-	-	325,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2023	Easement Acquisition for West Miss Reg Trail	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2023	Trails in Stephens Farm (future phases)	100,000	-	-	-	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2024	Easement Acquisition for West Miss Reg Trail	50,000	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2025	Easement Acquisition for West Miss Reg Trail	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2025	Trail along Fernbrook Ln from Rush Creek Pkwy. To 3 Rivers underpass	180,000	-	-	-	-	-	180,000	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2025	Pineview Ln Trail (137th-Dayton River Rd)	325,000	-	-	-	-	-	325,000	-	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2026	Trail along south side of 121 from Jonquil to border	280,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	280,000	-	-	-	-
Parks and Recreation	City	2030	Trail on South Side of Dayton River Road (between NDLR to River Hills)	600,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	600,000
					\$ 948,200	\$ 412,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 555,000	\$ 280,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600,000

Added trail construction costs for Stephens, Sundance Woods and River Hills (2020 construction)  
 Added trail along Pineview (SDLR north to Dayton River Rd to occur in stages)  
 Added trail along Fernbrook from Rush Creek Parkway to 3 Rivers Underpass (Rush Creek Regional Trail; est. in five years)  
 Easement Acquisition for West Mississippi Regional trail 2021 -2025)  
 Added trail along south side of 121 from Jonquil to east border

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