

Minutes

Lake Mills Parks Board

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

5:30 p.m.

Conference Room 231, 200 Water Street

1. Call to Order: 5:40 pm

2. Roll Call: McCrea Baker, Catherine Bishop, Mike Nesemann, Tim Sprecher

Absent: William Logothetis

Guests: Eric Schreiner, City Parks and Forestry Director,

Dustin Wolff, Meade & Hunt, City Planning Consultant

Tim was named vice-chair and Mike secretary.

3. Presentation of comprehensive plan from Planning Commission

City Planning Consultant Dustin Wolff presented sections of the updated [Comprehensive Plan](#) of special pertinence to the Parks Board. Highlights included survey responses indicating high interest in pedestrian connectivity, bike improvements (including “bike boulevards” and possibility of pursuing a Safe Streets and Roads for All [SS4A] grant), and improved communication. A recurring theme was working with nearby governmental and non-governmental entities and schools on a more regional approach to preservation and use of cultural and recreational resources, e.g., environmental corridors. The Board was very appreciative of his and his staff’s work and strongly recommended that we be included in the discussion of the transportation section, especially regarding bike and sidewalk plans. The Board approved the plan as presented subject to review of the final recommendations. If the Planning Commission accepts it next week, a 30 day open comment period will begin before the City Council votes on the final version.

4. Parks Board Minutes of February 22, 2023.

Accepted without comment.

5. Parks Board Minutes of April 19, 2023

Accepted without comment.

6. Public Comments . This section was deferred due to time constraints, and we expect to consider Bartel’s Beach and Golf Course in the future.

7. Parks and Forestry Director’s Report.

Eric gave an update, see attached, highlights of which included:

- A tree memorial policy/program is being drafted, as is an update of the decades-old Master Street Tree Plan. Additional forestry related activities included the ISA (International Society of Arborists) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification training, early care of newly planted trees hoping for a success rate of 85%, a new Tree Plotter system to assist with planning, and a new Tree Care Request Form to speed responses.

- Staffing remains an issue. With the general lack of college students, we depend on HS students, most of whom cannot begin till mid-June. We have only filled one of the two Clean Boats/Clean Water positions. Despite this, he expects all beaches (including boat lifts and piers) and parks to be fully operational by the week of 15 May and Memorial Day.

- 2023 Capital Improvement Plan projects (expenditures outside the scope of general operations and upkeep) are being finalized and put out for bids.

- The City will be working with the public on the planning for and maintenance of neighborhood parks, i.e., those within a 10 minute walk from home.

The Board was very impressed by the number and scope of activities successfully undertaken by Eric and his staff.

8. Announcements . None.

9. Next Meeting Date and Time: June 21, 2023

10. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Mike, seconded by Tim, and passed unanimously at 8:00 pm.

DRAFT