



City-County Consolidated Parks Board Time Stamped Summary



May 3, 2023 – 11:30 AM
City-County Building 316 N Park Ave. Room 426

Zoom Meeting Recording:

https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/hX3R1aOVF58t7_67nX4UkrtoldV_AZduVhMz9bZoGixodx8ldrFUUAfvixKmVyST.C5-49jJWhuq6Uw1l

Call to Order and Roll Call

(00:00:14) Board Chair Dave McGuire called the meeting to order at 11:32am

Roll Call was taken and the following members were present

Dave McGuire – City Appointee

Ben Kuiper – City Appointee

Doug Haberman – City Appointee

Ernie Lundberg – County Appointee/Lincoln Parks Board Member

Alex Tommerup – County Appointee

Jerry Blythe – County Appointee

Neal Murray – Helena School District Representative

City Commissioner – Sean Logan

County Commissioner – Andy Hunthausen

County Representative – Angie Hubbard

County Representative – Lindsay Morgan

Parks Superintendent – Craig Marr

Parks Maintenance Operations Manager – Pat Marron

Heather Kahler – Parks Admin/Board Secretary

Members of the public present:

Dr. G

John Andrew

Gary Lee Petersen

Mark O'Neill

Approval of the Minutes

(00:01:47) April 5, 2023 Meeting
Board member Alex Tommerup moved to approve the minutes. Board member Neal Murray seconded. The motion carried 7:0

Regular Items

(00:02:02)

A. Staff Reports

Parks, Recreation and Open Lands Report

Parks Superintendent Craig Marr reported that the parks have been busy and there was a great Arbor Day event coordinated by Brad Langsather and Kait Perrodin. They rein acted the 1899 tree planting event on Mount Helena with elementary students and violinists. The Firetower Restoration

Project is out to bid to begin soon. The Urban Forestry department will begin completing the Rodney Street tree project. Lots of special events and field use going on in the parks. Staff recruitment for the pool is happening. The budget process with the City is underway.

(00:07:28)

County Report

County Representative Angie Hubbard reported that they were awarded with \$54,282 in ARPA funds to masterplan Northstar Park and design Timberworks parkland.

(00:07:55)

B. Member Reports

City Commission Report – Commissioner Sean Logan said nothing to report.

County Commission Report – County Commissioner Andy Hunthausen addressed the board expanding on what County Rep Angie detailed the ARPA funding projects a little further. Discussion continued on what the future of the designing, planning and maintenance process could look like.

School District Report – Neal Murray reported maintenance crews are busy with mowing and the weather change. The school district is also going through the budget process and is needing to cut numbers as well.

(00:15:37)

C. Pet Cemetery Maintenance Discussion

Parks Superintendent Craig Marr addressed the board saying that Parks Director Doug Smith met with Gary Peterson who represents a group that maintains the pet cemetery on Custer Ave. Mr. Gary Petersen addressed the board saying that through fundraising efforts the group has been able to maintain and keep up the property. There are some additional expenditures and improvements that are needed they may not be able to cover the costs of. The water bill is beginning to be an expensive issue. Gary continued with details of how the group has worked to cut back on watering in hopes to lower the bill but it keeps remaining a problem and he is addressing the board to determine if an alternate plan can be made to assist the group. Discussion of ideas continued and contact information was shared to gather further information to determine his next steps.

(00:34:37)

D. County Owned Parkland Discussion

County Community Development and Planning staff members Angie Hubbard and Lindsay Morgan addressed the board to begin a conversation on how to create rules on County owned parkland in regards to rules to the public on what can and cannot be done on those lands. Board Chair Dave McGuire shared his thoughts of while many rules are in place, there is not the enforcement side of things to help prevent certain things from occurring, at least on the City side. County Commissioner addressed the board emphasizing on what staff members are seeking from the board in order to address unlawful things occurring in the County owned parklands and this discussion is to begin that process.

- (00:53:35) **E. City/County Boards & Committees Training Reminder for Thursday, May 11th at 5pm at the Civic Center**
Board Chair Dave McGuire reminded the board of the upcoming training. Heather added, and RSVP is required and the training is not mandatory. County Commissioner Andy Hunthausen provided further details of what may occur at the training.
- (00:55:43) **Public Comment**
Mark O'Neill was present to discuss an ongoing issue with City owned parkland off of 11th Ave and Jackson St. Superintendent Craig Marr addressed the board saying he is familiar with the issue occurring at Cartwright Park. Mr. O'Neill addressed the board of what is occurring and is asking for some of the trees to get cut back so the area is more visible from the road. Superintendent Craig Marr said they would go to the area and take a look at options that can be done.

Board Chair Dave McGuire addressed the board, inviting them to a free pickle ball open house at Barney Park to introduce the new courts.
- (01:06:00) **Member Communications / Proposals for next Agenda**
Board member Doug Haberman addressed the board wondering where he can go to gather maps of all the City and County owned parks. Further discussions continued of historical issues and boulevard tree watering.
- (01:12:00) **Meetings of Interest / Announcements**
Lunch is available to participants of the meeting
- (01:13:05) **Adjournment**
There being no further business before the City-County Consolidated Parks Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.