



City of Blaine

Park Advisory Board

April 23, 2024 | 7:00 PM
Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Square Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55449

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The Blaine Park Advisory Board met in the Council Chambers of City Hall on Tuesday, April 23, 2024.

Acting Chair Ford called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Boardmembers Ford, Henderson, Lizakowski, Neubert, and VanBuren.

Members Absent: Chair Lester and Boardmember Paulseth.

Staff Present: Jerome Krieger, Senior Parks and Recreation Manager and City Clerk Cathy Sorensen.

Guest: None.

City Clerk Sorensen administered the Oath of Office to Boardmembers Henderson, Neubert and VanBuren.

3. Approval of Minutes

3.1. 2024-118 Approval of the January 23, 2024 Park Board meeting minutes
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Motion by Boardmember Neubert to approve the minutes of January 23, 2024 as presented. Motion seconded by Boardmember VanBuren. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Open Forum for Citizen Input

Acting Chair Ford opened the Open Forum at 7:07PM.

No one appeared to address the Board.

Acting Chair Ford closed Open Forum at 7:07PM.

5. New Business

5.1. 2024-123 Awards - Presentations
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Mr. Krieger thanked Hellen Keraka for serving as a valued member of the Park Board for the last three years and presented her with a certificate of appreciation. A round of applause was offered by all in attendance.

5.2. 2024-119 Sunrise Pond Park
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Mr. Krieger presented phase two of Sunrise Pond Park, commenting on the plans for the basketball and pickleball courts. He reported the plans for this park would be similar to the courts that were completed at Territorial Park, except six basketball hoops would be installed on the full-size basketball court. He commented on the proposed location for the infiltration pond and requested feedback from the Board on the proposed plans.

Boardmember Neubert asked what the surface of the basketball court would be. Mr. Krieger reported the court would be an asphalt surface that would be painted.

Boardmember VanBuren questioned if the court would have lighting. Mr. Krieger reviewed the location of the lights that would be installed throughout the park.

Motion by Boardmember Neubert to recommend the City Council move forward with the Phase Two plans for Sunrise Pond Park. Motion seconded by Boardmember VanBuren. Motion approved unanimously.

5.3. 2024-120 Suzanne Park Playground Equipment
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Mr. Krieger discussed the new playground equipment proposed for Suzanne Park with the Park Board. He explained staff met with playground equipment provider Tom Pan last fall. He reviewed the location of this park, commented on the proposed equipment in further detail and noted the City had a \$50,000 budget for this park. If approved, this project would be completed this fall.

Acting Chair Ford stated he really appreciated the proposed plans for this park.

Boardmember Lizakowski questioned how often this park was utilized by residents. Mr. Krieger stated he was uncertain how much activity this park received, but anticipated that Filmore Park received more activity. He commented on how this park may not receive a lot of activity due to how outdated the play equipment was.

Boardmember Lizakowski inquired if this space should be reconsidered for something other than new playground equipment. She asked if other options should be considered, such as pickleball courts. Mr. Krieger explained because this park was quite small he would recommend against pickleball courts, due to the noise that be generated. He stated the only other option for this park would be to have a passive park space with benches.

Boardmember Neubert questioned if another structure could be considered with a slide that

would cater to 2 to 5 year olds. Mr. Krieger stated he could make adjustments to the play structure.

Acting Chair Ford indicated this park was very small, but it was very cozy and private due to the mature trees within the park.

Boardmember Neubert reported this was a nice park for small children or children with autism because it was small and quaint with very few exit points.

Mr. Krieger stated he would speak with the playground reps in order to have new plans drawn up for Suzanne Park and would report back to the board with these plans in June.

5.4. 2024-121 Pioneer and London Park Shelters
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Mr. Krieger discussed new shelters being proposed for Pioneer and London Park with the Park Board. He stated the City had \$50,000 budgeted for shelters at both parks. He reviewed pictures of shelters that were constructed in the community in the last five to seven years. He commented on how it may benefit the Board to consider more neutral colors for the shelters.

Boardmember Lizakowski asked if the shelter covers were subject to fading. Mr. Krieger explained he had only seen this on the bright red shelter covers.

Boardmember VanBuren indicated she liked the carbon or black posts with an ash gray or sandstone roof.

Boardmember Neubert stated she supported the more neutral colors as well. She asked where the shelter would be located within London Park. Mr. Krieger reviewed the proposed location for the park shelter within London Park.

Boardmember Neuberg suggested the park shelter be located directly adjacent to the playground structure away from the house in order to allow for the greenspace to remain in place for a football or soccer game. The Board supported this recommendation.

Mr. Krieger asked what color roof and posts the board wanted to move forward with for London Park. The Board supported an ash gray roof with black posts for the park shelter.

Mr. Krieger then reviewed the plans for the shelter at Pioner Park and asked for color recommendations and location from the Board.

Boardmember Neubert stated the regal blue with silver matte posts may be a nice option for this park because there was no play equipment to match the shelter to. She indicated this would draw attention to the shelter as well.

Boardmember Lizakowski supported the shelter being blue as well.

Boardmember Henderson asked if selecting different post colors required park maintenance staff to have more paint colors on hand for future maintenance. Mr. Krieger reported the park shelters come with a paint kit for maintenance purposes. He explained Landscape Shelters was based out of Delano, which made it quite simple to get additional paint colors.

Boardmember VanBuren stated the silver matte or pebble blue posts would coordinate nicely with a blue cover for the shelter. Mr. Krieger indicated he could request renderings from Flagship and could forward these to the Park Board for review and further comment.

Mr. Krieger provided the Board with an update on the following matters:

- Mary Ann Young Center Liver and Onions luncheon - This luncheon was held on Thursday, March 14 and over 200 meals were served to seniors.
- Senior Safety and Wellness Fair at SBM Fire Station #3 - This event was maxed out at 88 participants.
- Mary Ann Young Center March Madness - The City had 40 bingo players, 40 players for 500 and 60 cribbage players.
- Income Tax Assistance - 330 families utilized this service in conjunction with Anoka County. There were 11 to 13 preparers at the Mary Ann Young Center Monday through Friday during the tax season.
- Bids for Lexington Athletic Complex rink project - Staff received 8 bids for this project ranging from \$224,466 to \$483,780. Winberg Companies was awarded the rink bid and Forest Lake Contracting will be the electrical contractor.
- Colony Preserve Park - This playground was installed in February.
- Aquatore Bandshell - Staff reviewed photos of the progress that has been made on the bandshell.
- Summer Brochure - The summer brochure has been sent out to households in Blaine and registration began in March. It was noted summer programming included classes for infants through senior citizens.
- Board and Commission Appointment Process and Structure - Staff reviewed the updated board and commission appointment process and structure with the Board.
- Adopt a Park - Residents interested in volunteering to adopt a park were encouraged to contact City staff for further information regarding this program.

6. Adjournment

Boardmember Neubert motioned to adjourn. Boardmember VanBuren seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Acting Chair Ford adjourned the meeting at 8:10PM.