



City of Blaine

Park Advisory Board

July 22, 2025 | 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, July 22, 2025. Chair Lester called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Boardmembers Henderson, Lizakowski, Neubert, Tshakert and Chair Lester.

Members Absent: Boardmember VanBuren.

Staff Present: Jerome Krieger, Senior Parks and Recreation Manager.

Guest: None.

3. Approval of Minutes

- 3.1. 2025-396 Approval of the May 27, 2025 Park Board Meeting Minutes
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Motion by Boardmember Lizakowski to approve the minutes of May 27, 2025 as amended correcting the spelling of Cassandra's last name. Motion seconded by Boardmember Neubert. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Open Forum for Citizen Input

Chair Lester opened the Open Forum at 7:04PM.

No one appeared to address the Board.

Chair Lester closed Open Forum at 7:04PM.

5. New Business

- 5.1.** 2025-397 Honoring former Park Board member Kristopher Pauleth
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Senior Recreation Manager Krieger stated city staff would like to honor former park board member Kristopher Paulseth for his dedicated service on the park board. He discussed all of the park projects Mr. Paulseth has been a part of over the past seven years. He presented Mr. Paulseth with a plaque on behalf of the city of Blaine and wished him all the best in the future. A round of applause was offered by all in attendance.

Mr. Paulseth thanked the city for this recognition and noted he has really enjoyed his time on the park board.

- 5.2.** 2025-399 Eastside Playground Fire
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

Mr. Krieger stated on Wednesday, July 9 there was a fire at the Eastside Playground. Police were called to the park at approximately 12:44 am about a fire that was fifteen feet in the air. The fire department arrived to put out the fire, but about a third of the playground equipment was torched. Staff have been working with the League of Minnesota Cities on the insurance claim. The equipment will all need to be taken out and replaced. Staff requested the park board discuss the next steps.

Commissioner Neubert asked if the city's insurance policy will cover the cost for the entire playground replacement. Mr. Krieger stated in talking with the League of Minnesota Cities the equipment is insured to a value of \$77,000 but can be replaced for up to 150%, which comes in at \$116,000. He reported the city would keep the swing set in place and would have to replace the remainder of the playground equipment.

Chair Lester questioned if the park replacement would require park board and city council approval. Mr. Krieger explained he would have to speak with the finance team because he was uncertain how insurance claims work. He indicated he would be working to move this process along as quickly as possible in order to have a new structure installed yet this fall, if possible. He stated the residents in this neighborhood could visit Centennial Park for the remainder of the summer as it was only two blocks from this park.

- 5.3.** 2025-398 Park Updates
Sponsors: Jerome Krieger, Sr. Recreation Manager

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

Sunrise Pond Park - The city received approval from the watershed district for this park project and noted a holding pond would have to be created within the park.

Jim Peterson Park rinks - Staff was working with WSB and the watershed district on this project.

Blaine Baseball Complex field 5 lights - The electrical wires were stubbed in and the poles will be going up next week.

Blaine Baseball Complex indoor restrooms - The city received a grant for \$4,200 from SHIP for the adult changing tables and staff was working to find a contractor to complete this work.

Play Net Program - Staff provided the board with an update on the Play Net program.

Pickleball Signage - It was noted staff reviewed the pickleball signage and the current language states individuals are only supposed to play one game if other people are waiting for a court.

6. Adjournment

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

Chair Lester adjourned the meeting at 7:43PM.