

**Inver Grove Heights
Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, May 9, 2018
8150 Barbara Avenue
7:00pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PRESENTATIONS – Items that don't require action
4. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. You can find information regarding the City of Inver Grove Heights by visiting our web site at www.invergroveheights.org
 - B. Find us on Facebook at Inver Grove Heights Parks & Recreation
 - C. Follow us on Twitter at @IGHParks
 - D. Next Meeting; June 13, 2018 Regular Meeting 7:00pm
5. CONSENT AGENDA – All items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and have been made available to the Commission at least two days prior to the meeting; the items will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commission member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from this Agenda and considered in normal sequence.
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2018
6. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment provides an opportunity for the public to address the Commission on items that are not on the Agenda. Please raise your hand to be recognized. Please state your name and address for the record. This section is for the express purpose of addressing concerns of City services and operations. It shall not be used to clarify individual's views for political purposes. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person.
7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Items that are brought back to the Commission for action from a previous meeting.
8. REGULAR AGENDA - Items requiring action that are new to the Commission.
 - A. Consider Park Dedication Requirements for Center City Housing Corp – Case NO 18-19SZP
 - B. Establish a Joint Meeting with the Planning Commission
9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS - Items that need to be discussed without any actions.
 - A. Department Happenings
 - B. Update on Rich Valley Tennis Court Project
10. COMMISSION COMMENTS – A chance for Commissioners to ask questions or make comments.
11. ADJOURN

Since we do not have time to discuss every point presented, it may seem that decisions are preconceived. However, background information is provided to the Commission on each agenda item in advance from Staff; decisions are based on this information and past experiences. In addition, some items may have been discussed preliminarily at Work Sessions. If you are aware of information that has not been discussed, please raise your hand to be recognized. Comments that are pertinent are appreciated.

This document is available upon a 3 business day request in alternate formats such as Braille, large print, audio table, etc. Please contact Eric Carlson at 651.450.2587 or TDD/TTY 651.450.2501

**City of Inver Grove Heights Minutes of the Proceedings
Of the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, April 11, 2018**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Sethre called the April 11, 2018, Park and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Chair Kevin Sethre; Vice Chair Kathryn Bauer; Commissioners: Al Eiden, Willie Krech, Joe Boehmer, Mark Freer, Deb Tix, and Mary Gerhardt

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson

Absent: Commissioner Patrick Farley, Recording Clerk Sheri Yourczek

3. PRESENTATIONS:

A. Presentation on Little Free Library at the VMCC/Grove – Katie Alojado/Elizabeth Ponto

Park and Recreation Director Eric Carlson introduced Simley High School students Katie Alojado and Elizabeth Ponto who will be giving a presentation on the Little Free Library Project that they are working on putting in the Community Center.

Katie Alojado stated that they are working on a Free Little Library for their NHS (National Honor Society) project through Simley High School. The purpose of this project is to help children with their own personal libraries at home and to help kids and adults to continue to read during these busy times.

Elizabeth Ponto stated that they worked with Jen Graham and Tracy Petersen in the Parks and Recreation Department and decided to dedicate the project to a fellow employee and friend who had passed away. She displayed a picture of the proposed project and said that they would be using bright colors and the wording “Keep on the bright side” in their co-worker’s memory.

Commissioner Eiden commented that this was a great idea, and that there are several throughout the Community.

Ms. Alojado commented that they saw one located on Brewster Avenue and loved the idea. Their idea was to have something located near the daycare center that they would upkeep to make sure there were always new books inside.

Commissioner Freer asked who built the library.

Ms. Alojado responded that she herself, Elizabeth, and Elizabeth’s Dad built it.

Commissioner Eiden asked that when the girls leave, who would continue doing the upkeep. He asked if they would accept books from the Community?

Ms. Alojado responded that she would be going to school locally, so she would be able to continue the upkeep. She responded that they would welcome all types of books for children and adults from Community members.

A picture was taken of the group.

B. Review of Summer Recreation Programs – Jen Graham/Al Vandehoef

Recreation Coordinator Jen Graham stated that the Little Free Library will be located right outside of the Childcare Room at the Community Center.

She highlighted the following programs:

- Indoor Toy/Garage Sale. Provides indoor one stop shopping of over 40 vendors held on the same day as the Best Foundation May Day 5K. Applications are still being accepted.
- The Community Gardens are back at Salem Hills Park. All 28 plots have been sold, but there is a waiting list for those still interested.
- The Huck Finn Fishing Derby will be held at Simley Island Pond in June. This also takes place during the DNR Take a Kid Fishing Day. On this day an adult can fish without a license if a youth 15 or under is in their presence. Prizes are awarded for biggest fish, smallest fish, etc.
- Terrific Tuesdays is a free entertainment series. They will have musical concerts, the Movie in the Park, the Zoomobile, Storytime in conjunction with Inver Glen Library, the Penny Carnival, and more. Locations vary between South Valley Park and the Community Center. She commented that last year during this program they introduced the frequent guest program, which is a program that when children attend an event they collect a wooden nickel, when they have collected four wooden nickels they would turn those in at the Community Center to collect a goodie bag filled with fun summer items.
- The Farmer's Market, held in conjunction with the St. Paul Farmer's Market, will be back in June weather permitting. This is held at the VMCC on Sunday's from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

There are a variety of Camps for ages 4 to 12 such as:

- Horse Camp
- Musical Theatre
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Pickleball
- Robotics
- Arts
- Safety Camp
- Veterinary Camp
- Woodworking

Coordinator Graham stated they are still accepting registrations for camps that have not yet begun, such as Track, Archery, Tennis, T Ball, and Softball. She stated that all events are located in the Summer Parks and Recreation brochure that was mailed out in March. Additional copies of the brochure are also located at the Community Center. Registration is available on the website.

Commissioner Tix asked what the Zoomobile was.

Coordinator Graham responded that people from the Minnesota Zoo come out and do a presentation. She commented that they did this program last year and it was really popular. This year's theme is "All Things Connected". It is held inside at the Community Center.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. You can find information regarding the City of Inver Grove Heights by visiting our web site at: www.invergroveheights.org**
- B. Find us on Facebook at Inver Grove Heights Parks & Recreation**
- C. Follow us on Twitter at @IGHParks**
- D. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 9, 2018. Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of Agenda**
- B. Approval of Minutes of February 21, 2018**

Motion by Commissioner Eiden, second by Commissioner Freer to approve the Consent Agenda.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

8. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Discuss Future of River Heights Park

Chair Sethre stated this item is regarding a proposal to consider approval of the disposal of real property referred to as River Heights Park located at 8780 Inver Grove Trail. The parcel is 7.5 acres. He stated that the Commission is being asked to recommend to the City Council that the land be divided into three 2.5 acre lots and used for single family residential development served by private well and septic.

Director Carlson stated that they posted this Agenda item online and since then he has received a number of emails and a letter from the Friends of the Mississippi River. He commented that all of that information has been provided to the Parks Commission and will also be included in the information provided to the City Council for their meeting on May 7th.

Director Carlson presented the following information:

- The City Mission states that the City of Inver Grove Heights is to provide services and facilities that enhance the quality of life in our vibrant Community.
- The City has 608 acres of parkland in 28 parks and 26 miles of bituminous trails. A Community survey indicated that residents generally liked the existing amenities in the parks system and that they wanted them to continue being provided. Finding the necessary financial resources to reinvent in the parks system has been challenging.
- The City has \$7,600,000 in assets in the park system (tennis courts, playgrounds, lighting systems, shelters, buildings, etc.). This does not include trails or parking lots and also does not include the value of the land.
- Approximately \$275,000 is needed annually to provide for capital replacement. Currently \$250,000 comes from the General Fund. There is a gap of approximately \$25,000 annually.
- A need to right size Parks and Recreation to serve the Urban Area, the Northwest Area, and the Rural Area, and focus on what to keep and what to repurpose. To make sure they allocate resources effectively, as well as having quality versus quantity.

He stated that a question was posed asking if the City should repurpose park land they currently have. Consideration has been given to repurposing Marcott Wood and River Heights. He stated that tonight they are speaking about River Heights. This process includes engaging the public and if the decision was to sell the property, the proceeds would be used to help fund needed park system improvements and put the property on the tax rolls.

He stated that River Heights Park is located at 8780 Inver Grove Trail, has 7.5 acres, and is surrounded by 2.5-acre residential lots that surround the park. It has a mowed trail and is a natural area with open space.

He stated that they need to consider the question What is the Best Future Use of River Heights Park with the following statements:

- Develop the property as a public park (Park ID sign, parking lot, playground, and other amenities) – City owned public park.
- Sell park land to allow for the development of three, 2-5-acre residential lots served by well and septic and put on the tax roll.
- Sell the park land to a private party and allow the property to be protected as “open space” and be put on the tax roll.
- Leave park “as is” as City owned public open space.
- Other suggestions.

Director Carlson stated that they consider how much open space is enough as follows:

- A majority of parcels in the area are 2.5 or larger.
- Area guided as rural residential.
- Lies outside of the Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA) and is zoned Estate Residential.
- MN DNR Pine Bend Bluff SNA – 250 acres of public open space.
- Katherine Ordway Natural History Study Area, 300 acres – non-public open space.

The Trust for Public Land - Park Serve. Park Serve is an online tool www.parkserve.org that compiles the following information:

- Uses public parks and public demographic data.
- Maps indicate that this is a 10-minute walk along public roadways to access parks.
- Calculates the number of residents living within a 10-minute walk.
- 62% of IGH residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park.
- 60% of IGH youth live within a 10-minute walk, and the National average for youth is 55%.

Director Carlson stated the statistics for each park and the results from the parkserve.org website in regards to our 28 parks.

He stated that the basis for recommendation as follows:

- The 7.5-acre park is undeveloped.
- TPL data indicates 254 people live within a 10-minute walk, which is the second lowest of our 28 public parks.
- The addition of three 2.5-acre residential lots served by well/septic fit the character of the neighborhood.
- With Pine Bend Bluffs having 250 acres of publicly accessible open space, there is ample open space in the area given that the area is guided Rural Residential and is zoned Estate Residential.
- City doesn't have enough capital to maintain our existing parks, therefore it doesn't make sense to make additional park improvements which would only add to the financial challenges.

Director Carlson commented that the timeline for this Agenda item begins with this meeting today, April 11th. It will then go before the City Council on Monday, May 7th, 2018 at a Work Session that begins at 6:00 in City Council Chambers.

Tom Wilkens, 8959 Inver Grove Trail stated that in 1980 the City approved the plat for Falcon Ridge and Broadmoor Ponds and accepted the Park Dedication of 7.5 acres that is known today as River Heights Park. The property was conveyed to Mn DOT for the Great River Road Project. The property was conveyed back to the City with the stipulation that it was to be developed as parkland within a specific period of time. He stated that he feels that the park should not be sold and that he would prefer the park to remain passive and natural. He commented that a sign depicting it as park space would be nice, as well as restoration, which could be handled by volunteers with no expense to the City. He commented that he didn't think development of the park would be an option. He encouraged the City to pursue a conservation easement through a second and third party and place it on the property to protect the park for future residents.

Alicia Uzarek, Friends of the Mississippi River, 101 East 5th Street, St. Paul, commented that the Friends of the Mississippi River (FMR) is a Twin Cities based non-profit organization that engages people to protect, restore, and enhance the Mississippi River and its watershed in our region. It was founded 25 years ago. She stated that FMR has been working in partnership with Inver Grove Heights for over a decade. They are currently working

with the City and local volunteers on Heritage Village Park and Swing Bridge Park. She stated that they are requesting that they uphold their August 9, 2017 Motion that recommends the City Council “Remove this park from the list under consideration to be sold and that we affirm the value of this parks opens space, not only for the people in the area, but for the entire City and the wildlife”. She stated that FMR requests that you recommend restoration of this open space park to the City Council. She stated that the area is one of the key pieces that make their National Park great as this location contributes to not only people and wildlife, but also to the Mississippi River Flyway which is a migratory corridor. She stated that they should continue to recognize this park and protect it from development. FMR is willing to help with the restoration of the park, including finding outside funding, creating a restoration management plan, and working with the Community to complete the restoration.

Al Meyman, 8915 River Heights Way commented that there are 140 signatures on the petition representing 94 households that surround the park. They wish to have the park left unchanged and that it is useful to their neighborhood. He said their petition statement reads that: “River Heights Park was dedicated green space when the area was developed and is part of the character of River Heights Way. We do not want any part of our neighborhood park to be sold”. He commented that the park is used and has a heavy commitment.

Steve Cook, 9250 Inver Grove Trail commented that they walk to the park daily. The sounds and smells of the natural area of the park are parts of what a park is about, having open space to appreciate with their senses. He asked what the intent of this land was to begin with. Once the park is gone they cannot bring it back and has value if it is left as it is. He asked to protect this area and keep with the Resolution that was made in August.

Sheila Tatone, 3764 74th Street East commented that they fought hard to get the land instead of Cash Dedication when this development went in. She didn’t think this was excess land and asked that you find out what the neighbors want for the area. She suggested keeping the space open and available to everyone. She stated that if the City Council valued these parks enough, you would have enough money. She urged them to retain this as a part of the City park land.

Kerry Hofner, 8715 River Heights Way commented that he has lived in the area for 31 years. He stated that last year the subject came up to sell the park, and that it was voted to keep it. Now this subject is back again. This park has no costs associated with it compared to other parks. He asked that if this is sold, where would the money go? He felt it could get lost.

Chair Sethre commented that there have been multiple events to either develop or improve the property in the past.

Mr. Meyman stated that the only time they disagreed with selling the land was when they tried to turn it into a dog park and have it fenced in. There are no dog parks anywhere near houses, those are located in more commercial areas.

Chair Sethre commented that the property was deeded or purchased in the mid 1980’s. There are no restrictions on the Deed right now.

Mr. Cook commented that some people may not appreciate the value of the park right now, but they may value it in the future. He for one, appreciates the park area more now then he would have previously because now he is retired. He commented that they should look into the future. The developer set aside land back then for a reason, and that may have been to protect some of it as undeveloped.

Greg Bauer, 8955 Inver Grove Trail commented that they were the first to buy their property on Broadmoor Ponds before the land was final platted. They found the property when one of the Parks Commissioners at that time, mentioned the area in 1981 and told them that there would be a park in the area.

Chair Sethre stated that the proposal as it stands, is to consider approval of disposal of real property referred to as River Heights Park.

Mr. Wilkens asked if the Advisory group came up with their own recommendations and own their own motions. He asked where this topic came from.

Chair Sethre responded that purpose action was requested.

Commissioner Eiden responded that this Advisory Commission serves at the pleasure of the City Council. This item is back before us again because the Council didn't move forward with it back in August. They have asked this Commission to make a decision as per their request.

Linda Bierman, 63rd Street commented that she was on the Parks Commission at the time they acquired the property. She commented that this Commission's purpose isn't to do whatever the City Council says, but to protect the people of this City. The people of the City want this park.

Chair Sethre commented that this Commission tries to account for all citizens.

Mr. Meyman commented that Joe Atkins, the County Commissioner, put a survey on his website that had over 250 responses that they not sell park land in order to build houses.

Nancy Cooper, 8905 River Heights Way stated that she has lived in Inver Grove Heights for over 50 years. She asked the Commission to think of what the City of Inver Grove Heights represents. She has heard that Inver Grove Heights is rural, and that they are not like Eagan, Woodbury, Farmington, or even West St. Paul. She commented that in order to be considered rural, you have to consider land, farming, agriculture, etc. She asked that if we are rural and that this isn't a booming Community bringing in an economy, then that land is our future, but if we are not considered rural, then they build the houses.

Chair Sethre mentioned that when he moved to Inver Grove because there was a farm where Walgreens is right now. He felt we have had a mix of development and that we have kept it somewhat rural.

Vice Chair Bauer commented that she was against this proposed action, and felt it was the wrong direction for the City. She mentioned that in the Comprehensive Plan for 2040, the first paragraph states that "Parks define neighborhoods, offer recreation opportunities, and serves as open space and wildlife habitat. Parks act as neighborhood gathering points, strengthen the sense of Community and sets the stage for active living." She commented that defines what they should be about as a Parks Commission. She stated that she didn't join the Commission to get rid of parks. She commented that when excess land was spoken about several years ago, she didn't have a clue about what that meant. It wasn't until she went to that park herself and saw it being used, and then read the comments that this park is valued and was a part of the character of Inver Grove Heights that she began to think differently. She commented that she wasn't against having a sign or considering it a park as it is listed on the roster of Parks in our Park and Recreation brochure. Everyone has the opportunity to visit this park. She agreed that if it was sold for residential lots, it would be lost in a location that is very important. She stated she was against the proposed action.

Commissioner Boehmer commented that he would like to see items on the Comprehensive Plan to make some future developments such as a parking spots and signage.

Commissioner Eiden commented that he was against keeping it and has many reasons for selling it.

Motion by Commissioner Eiden to adopt the recommendation to dispose of the real property at River Heights Park. Second by Commissioner Freer.

Commissioner Gerhardt commented that she agreed with Vice Chair Bauer as she was against this back in August and is against selling this park now. She commented that if we sell our parks to fund other park projects we are losing a valuable commodity within our Community. She commented that she uses this park and felt it was a nice area to go to and enjoy the wildlife.

Chair Sethre stated that any decision made tonight is not binding. This will still go before the City Council.

Mr. Bauer commented that selling this land is very short sighted and is land that will never come back again.

Mike McDonald, 8304 Delaney Circle, asked that depending on the decision made tonight, what needed to happen with the City Council so that we don't have to keep having this discussion every eight months.

Commissioner Krech responded that we need to vote on this and perhaps come up with an alternate solution.

Commissioner Eiden responded that the next step would be that this goes back to the City Council during a work session and then they set a date to vote.

Ayes: 4 (Eiden, Freer, Sethre, Tix)

Nays: 4 (Gerhardt, Bauer, Boehmer, Krech) Motion failed.

Motion by Vice Chair Bauer to recommend to the City Council that they remove this park from a list under consideration to be sold and that we affirm the value of this park, the open space, for not only the people in the area, but the entire City and the wildlife. Second by Commissioner Gerhardt.

Commissioner Eiden asked Vice Chair Bauer if she would want to leave the park as is.

Vice Chair Bauer responded that she would like it kept as is but would be open to a sub-committee looking into signage.

Commissioner Krech felt that having signage and parking, and possibly a small area set aside for smaller children to use, would be beneficial so that the Community as a whole could use it.

Chair Sethre asked if this was an amended motion to include developing it as a public park with signage, a parking lot, or having a playground or other amenities.

Vice Chair Bauer mentioned that we should study the options as well as what the public may want.

Vice Chair Bauer and Commissioner Gerhardt accepted the Amendment to the Motion as proposed by Commissioner Krech stating that they should develop it as a public park with signage, a parking lot, and/or a playground or other amenities.

Chair Sethre clarified that the Amended Motion would be to consider development of the property as a public park with the possibility of park signage, a parking lot, playground and/or other amenities not specified, and that it remains a City owned park.

Commissioner Freer commented that signage shouldn't be an option. He felt it was important to let people know it is there to be used.

Ayes: 5 (Gerhardt, Boehmer, Krech, Tix, Bauer)

Nays: 2 (Freer, Eiden)

Abstain: 1 (Sethre) Motion carried.

Director Carlson stated that the City Council will meet on this Agenda item on Monday, May 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. He commented that all literature will be received and reviewed and that a public discussion will be held.

Mr. Hofner asked if this would be a work study session.

Director Carlson responded that yes, it would be a work study session and that the Council cannot make any decisions at that time. He stated that the Council will provide direction to Staff such as the need for additional information, and once that is collected, they will have to go back before the City Council with their responses at another time, for example, such as at a meeting in June.

B. Consider Establishment of North/South Valley Park Subcommittee

Director Carlson stated that at a work study session in February, we discussed the Master Plan for North and South Valley Park. Due to the size of this Parks Commission, it was decided that it may be better to have a subcommittee created consisting of a few Commission members. He stated that they are suggesting Chair Sethre, and Commissioners Eiden, Freer, and Gerhardt participate on that subcommittee. They would be meeting approximately three to five times over the course of a few months.

Chair Sethre and Commissioners Freer and Gerhardt accepted the appointment to the subcommittee.

Motion by Vice Chair Bauer to establish the North/South Valley Park Subcommittee. Second by Commissioner Freer.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Commissioner Krech suggested they look into the parking situation at South Valley.

C. Review of Park and Recreation Section of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Director Carlson stated that this Commission had received a copy of the Draft of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. You are asked to make comments on what you think may be missing, what should be in there, what you like, or what you don't like, and make those comments so they can be passed along. The document will be going to the City Council for their review and then sent to the Met Council for their approval.

Commissioner Freer commented that he would like to add having a barrier free playground in our Community. He stated that we have residents that have physical or mental disabilities that make using a playground we have now difficult or impossible. As a Community, we should have one playground here that is barrier free that those people that have these difficulties can have a park to go to and enjoy as the rest of our residents do.

Commissioner Eiden commented that the plan is good and has good additions. He commented that there were three or four paragraphs from the existing plan that have been eliminated, that he would like to have added back in. He said he would need to go through the plan again to find out what they were, and then he would email that information to the Commission so they can all see it. He said they were additions to a list of things created within the programs.

Director Carlson suggested that Commissioner Eiden forward those suggestions to himself so he can share those with the rest of the Commission. He said they needed to be careful of the Open Meeting Law and not have a perceived meeting through email.

Commissioner Eiden responded that he was fine with sending them to Director Carlson.

Director Carlson responded that this would be going to the City Council in May. He commented that the intent of this is to share your thoughts and comments with regards to the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Krech mentioned that they should make a motion to give direction regarding the parking at the Community Center. There is land out there they can use, and that right now there is not adequate parking.

Director Carlson responded that they can make sure that the topic of adequate parking at the VMCC makes its way into the Comprehensive plan in the appropriate spot.

Vice Chair Bauer stated that they have a list of the accomplishments over the last ten years. She commented that it does a good job of talking about all of the different aspects of our parks, such as trails, the VMCC, etc. She asked if there was a place for goals like Commissioner Krech is talking about.

Chair Sethre asked if there was a parking problem here for different events. He does see people parking along the road.

Director Carlson responded that Staff's opinion about parking is that everyone likes to park by the front door. There is adequate parking most of the time. He commented that there is usually additional parking down by the National Guard side of the building, but people usually choose to park along Barbara. He commented that sometimes there are larger events that cause parking issues, but that we need to make sure we have adequate parking for the typical traffic we see here.

Commissioner Boehmer stated there is no sidewalk from the Armory down to the center. You are no longer able to enter the Armory there, so you have to walk down to it outside.

Director Carlson responded that they can take care of that issue when they begin their parking lot project this year.

Director Carlson addressed Vice Chair Bauer's comment about a place for goals in this Plan. He commented that if you had items like parking, or the barrier free playground, you should get those items either spoken now, or get the information to him in the next few days. They will include those thoughts and ideas into the Comprehensive Plan.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS:

A. Department Happenings

Commissioner Eiden commented that he was in favor of the game of Cricket, but only when they find out what they are proposing, how many people are involved, and what the investment is going to be to give them the room to do it.

Commissioner Freer asked where that was played.

Director Carlson responded that Cricket is played on a 300-foot field, similar to a soccer field. In the middle of a cricket field there is a small area similar to that of a putting green, the grass would short and firm, so when the cricket pitcher pitches, it bounces and the batter can hit it. He commented that they have given them a number of different suggestions to go out and look at, but they have not heard back from them yet.

Commissioner Krech asked how Lacrosse was working out.

Director Carlson responded that Lacrosse continues to be a popular sport and that the High School program is pretty popular.

Tracy Petersen, Recreation Superintendent, responded that three or four years ago they started offering boys and girls lacrosse within the Community. Once established, they had a group that wanted to form the Boys Youth Lacrosse Association, they now run the league, camps, and clinics for the boys. She commented that the girl's success hasn't been as well received as the boys, but they are still offering clinics and other activities. They are hoping that once interest grows, the Association will probably take over the girl's teams as well. She commented that they are currently doing a spring girls clinic in partnership with Eagan. Inver Grove Heights had approximately 20 girls take part, and Eagan had double that amount. They are using the indoor turf at the Community Center. She commented that they will have an introductory summer clinic for girls on Sunday's beginning in June for those that have not played before and want to learn about the sport.

Commissioner Freer stated the reason he brought up the subject of Cricket is because Inver Hills College has a baseball field that hasn't been used in years.

Director Carlson responded that he thought he had heard that the College has long term plans for that space.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

None

11. ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Freer, second by Commissioner Tix, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Ayes: 8

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Consider Park Dedication Requirements for Center City Housing Corp – Case No 18-19SZP

Meeting Date: May 9, 2018
 Item Type: Regular Agenda
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ☐ | None |
| ☐ | Amount included in current budget |
| ☐ | Budget amendment requested |
| ☐ | FTE included in current complement |
| ☐ | New FTE requested – N/A |
| ☐ | Other |

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Approve park dedication and trail requirements as recommended.

SUMMARY

The applicant is proposing to develop a portion of the 5.3 acre site with a 40-unit family apartment building. The site is adjacent to River Heights Vineyard Church.

Park Land

The adopted Comprehensive Park Plan and Development Guide does not identify a need for a park in this general area.

Cash Dedication

It is recommended that the developer be required to provide cash in the amount of the rates in effect at the time the final plat is approved. The current 2018 rate is as follows:

R3C Property is \$4,900/unit x 40 = \$196,000.

Tree Preservation

The issue of tree preservation is a planning issue and not a PRAC issue. However, the Planning Commission and City Council should be encouraged to make sure the City's ordinance related to tree preservation is followed and if the developer isn't replacing trees on a caliper per caliper inch as outlined that they are required to provide the necessary cash payment that would be deposited in the Tree Fund and used in public parks and open spaces.

Landscaping

Given the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) epidemic, ash trees should not be allowed to be planted and if any exist on the site they should be required to be removed.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Establish a Joint Meeting with the Planning Commission on Tuesday, June 5th at 6:00pm

Meeting Date: May 9, 2018
Item Type: Regular Agenda
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ☐ | None |
| ☐ | Amount included in current budget |
| ☐ | Budget amendment requested |
| ☐ | FTE included in current complement |
| ☐ | New FTE requested – N/A |
| ☐ | Other |

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

The Commission is asked to establish a joint meeting with the Planning Commission on Tuesday, June 5th at 6:00pm at City Hall. The meeting will be held in the lower level training room of the Police Department.

SUMMARY

The Planning Commission has asked that a joint meeting between the Planning Commission be held with the Parks and Recreation Commission. It is recommended the meeting be set for Tuesday, June 5th at 6:00pm at City Hall.

The tentative agenda is as follows:

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. NW Area Parks
4. SW Area Parks
5. Tot Lots
6. Miscellaneous
7. Adjournment (by 6:50pm)

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Department Happenings

Meeting Date: May 9, 2018
 Item Type: Administrative Presentations
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:	
☒	None
☐	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Item is for informational purposes and Commissioners are encouraged to ask appropriate questions.

SUMMARY

Items included:

- Department Happenings Report
- Miscellaneous



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



PARKS DIVISION

Rich Valley Tennis Court Project Update

Staff is currently working with Fred Kolkman Tennis and Sport Surfaces to secure quotes from contractors for the tennis court reconstruction project at Rich Valley. We have decided to install a product called “Pro Bounce” that prevents the development of cracks on the playing surface and provides for the lowest overall future maintenance costs. We expect the Council to approve a contractor at the May 29th City Council meeting. The project includes the replacement of the fencing, court surface and netting. The court will be lined for both tennis (in white) and pickleball (in yellow).

NW Area Park Search Update

The Council will be asked to establish an Executive Session at your Monday, May 14th meeting to discuss park land acquisition in the NW Area. The conversation will be centered around property acquisition south of 70th and west of Hwy 3.

Doffing Ave Update

Walser Property – attorney’s representing the City and Walser are working out the details of the purchase agreement and once details have been finalized the purchase agreement will be placed on the City Council agenda for approval.

Hay Property – The City has filed an eminent domain petition for the acquisition of the Hay property. No communication with the Hay family has been received recently.

LSS Inc. Property – As directed by the Council staff has informed the Sanders that we have rejected their offer for the purchase of their property and that we are not interested in filing a eminent domain petition to acquire their property. Staff has asked the Sanders to contact the City should they want to sell their property in the future.

Kramer Property – The Kramer closing is scheduled for May 16th.

Heritage Village Park Update

Staff, WSB, and Braun are working diligently on plans for Heritage Village Park which includes the dog park. Based on the nature of the contamination on site there is quite a bit of “red tape” to work through with the MPCA which has slowed progress. We will keep working at making progress and will keep the Council updated along the way.

GOLF COURSE DIVISION



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Inver Wood Golf Course

The golf course opened for the season this past Monday and has been very busy. Staff is working feverishly to hire and train all of the necessary staff that helps maintain and operate the course. The membership drive is closed and golfers are stopping by the course to pick up their membership cards and make tee times. We are looking forward to a busy year at the course.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



RECREATION DIVISION

Adopt-A-Park Program

This program runs from April-October and allows civic groups, families, businesses and individuals to adopt a park and clean up garbage. They also serve as another set of eyes and ears for vandalism and unwanted behavior. This year we have picked up 3 new families/groups interested in the program.

Huck Finn Fishing Derby

This is a great family event held at Simley Island Park! This year's event will be held on Saturday, June 9 from 9:30-11am. Participants receive a fishing goodie bag and are eligible to win prizes for various fishing contests.

Summer Intern

The recreation division will be having a summer intern again this year. Rachel Mikel will be coming to the June meeting to introduce himself to the Commission.

Late Start to Outdoor Athletic Fields

With the late spring and never-ending snow, we are finally opening outdoor fields for soccer, baseball, softball and lacrosse.

Dakota County Parks Partnership

Staff recently met with Dakota County Parks staff to brainstorm new partnership opportunities. Better utilization of Swing Bridge Park, cross-promoting the regional trail and some fall active adult programs are being discussed.

Terrific Tuesdays

Terrific Tuesdays is our free series of events over the summer months that includes story time, kids' music, movie night, penny carnival and more! All events take place on Tuesdays and specific dates, times and location can be found on the website.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



VMCC/GROVE DIVISION

Community Center Summer Membership

Beginning May 1, staff is offering our summer membership (single or family at a reduced rate. The membership is good through August 31.

Farmers' Market is Back

The Saint Paul Farmers' Market is back beginning Sundays, June 17 and will run through October 7 from 8am-1pm in the Community Center parking lot.

Lap/Dive Pools Closed for Annual Maintenance & Cleaning

The lap/dive pools at the Community Center will be closed for routine maintenance and cleaning May 25-June 7.

Water Park Busy!

The Community Center has seen an extremely busy past couple of months in the water park. Staff contributes this to the long winter as well as the remodel of the water park.

Active Aging Fair

The Active Aging Fair was held last Wednesday with a record number of vendors at over 50. The event was well received by the vendors and participants. This year, the event had a title sponsor in Hiway Federal Credit Union.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Little Library Update

The Little Free Library created and designed by two Simley High School National Honor Society students has been a big hit! See a photo of our first customers below.



West Rink Project Update

The Council will be asked to approve a contract with Becker Arena Products under the National Joint Powers Agreement (NJPA) for the West Rink Dasher Boards for approximately \$164,000.

Bids for the West Rink floor project were opened this past Tuesday and were favorable. The lowest responsible bidder, Minnesota Ice, submitted a bid of \$539,852.

At this point the total project investment for the West Rink project is approximately \$896,000 which includes engineering, the new ice resurfacer, dasher boards, and floor replacement. The City of Inver Grove Heights is responsible for \$89,000 (10%) and the City of Rosemount is responsible for \$807,000 (90%).

The Rosemount City Council is expected to review and approve the flooring project at their May 15th meeting and Inver Grove Heights will consider approval of the flooring contract on May 29th.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Update on Rich Valley Tennis Court Renovation

Meeting Date: May 9, 2018
 Item Type: Administrative Presentations
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Brian Swoboda
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ☐ | None |
| ☐ | Amount included in current budget |
| ☐ | Budget amendment requested |
| ☐ | FTE included in current complement |
| ☐ | New FTE requested – N/A |
| ☒ | Other |

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Staff is reporting back on progress of replacing the Tennis Court at Rich Valley Athletic Complex.

SUMMARY

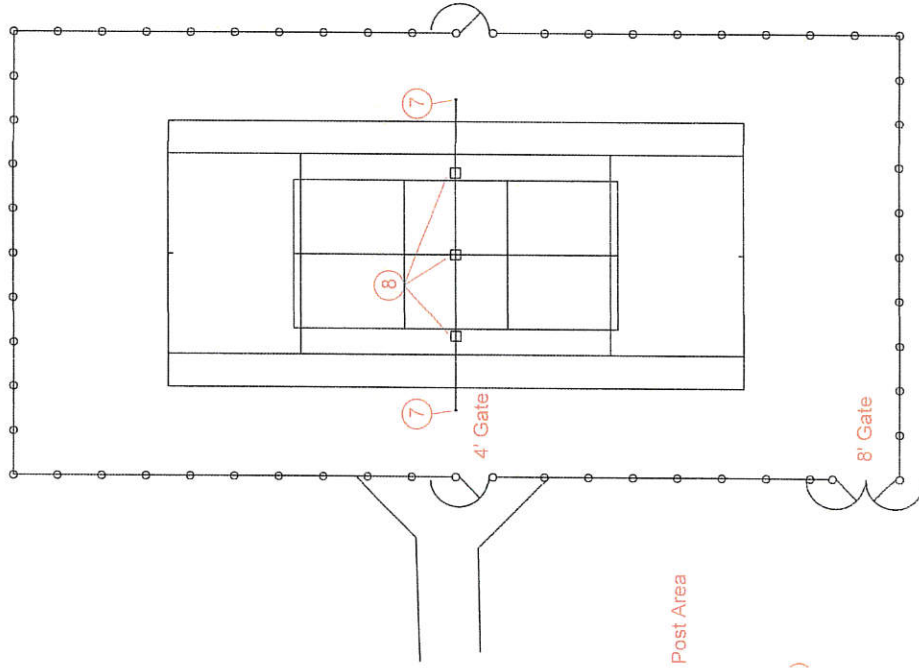
On February 21, the City Council approved, with the support of PRAC, a recommendation to hire Fred Kolkman Tennis and Sport Surfaces to provide design services. Design Services included Plans, Specifications, Construction Administration, Site Survey, Inspections, and Geotechnical investigation.

FKT&SS has completed the initial site survey and inspections. Upon completion, staff was provided 4 potential rebuild options based on inspections and soil boring findings. Those four options included:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Traditional Asphalt Reconstruction | No Warranty |
| 2. Tile System (Sport Court) | 10 Year Warranty |
| 3. Titan Trax TN (Thin membrane) | 5 Year Warranty |
| 4. Pro Bounce (Thick membrane) | 5 Year Warranty |

Based on many factors including geo technical results, court conditions, warranty, future maintenance costs and estimated total project completion costs, staff has decided to proceed with accepting quotes for renovation with the Pro Bounce System.

FKT&SS has reached out to numerous court contractors with plans and specifications to receive quotes to complete the project. FKT&SS set a Pre-Quote meeting on May 9th at Rich Valley to answer any questions. Quotes will be due on May 16th and reviewed by staff and sent to be approved by City Council on May 29th. Upon City Council approval FKT&SS will hold a pre-construction meeting on June 4th and the project completion date is set for September 1.



- 1 City To Pull Damaged Fence Posts
- 2 Contractor To Set New 4" SS-40 in Pulled Post Area
- 3 Cut Existing Posts To 8' Height
- 4 Slip New 4" SS-40 Over Existing (10' High)
- 5 Install Top And Bottom Rail
- 6 Install New 2" Fabric
- 7 City To Pull Net Posts And Center Tie Down.
Contractor To Install New 3" Black Square Douglas
- 8 Set Center Tie Downs For Tennis And Pickleball



Fred Kolkman Tennis
And Sport Surfaces, LLC
1921 Mayfair Rd. Grafton, WI 53024
www.kolkmancourtbuilder.com
Courtbuilder@ameritech.net
262-685-7507

City Of Inver Grove Heights
8150 Barbara Avenue
Inver Grove Heights, MN 53077

Rich Valley Fencing Plan

Project #	18-021
Sheet #	5
Date	4-23-2018
CAD By	Peter K.
Scale	NTS



CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Commission Comments

Meeting Date: May 9, 2018
 Item Type: Commission Presentations
 Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
 Prepared by: Eric Carlson
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

☒	None
☐	Amount included in current budget
☐	Budget amendment requested
☐	FTE included in current complement
☐	New FTE requested – N/A
☐	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Commissioners are encouraged to make appropriate comments.

SUMMARY

None.