



**Minutes
Minnetonka Park Board
Wednesday, August 2, 2023**

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Park board members present: Korey Beyersdorf, David Ingraham, Ben Jacobs, Katie Semersky, Isabelle Stroh and Chris Walick. Excused: Ella DiLorenzo and Anne Hanley.

Staff members in attendance: Kathy Kline, Matt Kumka and Sara Woeste.

Chair Walick called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

3. Reports from Staff

Assistant Recreation Director Sara Woeste thanked Stroh for being a student member on the park board. She was a non-voting member but she has been very vital in a lot of their discussions. She hoped it was a good experience for her and wished her luck at college.

Stroh responded that it has been amazing.

4. Approval of Minutes

Jacobs moved, Ingraham seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 7, 2023 as submitted. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

5. Citizens wishing to discuss items not on the agenda

There were none.

6. Special Matters

There were none.

7. Business Items

A. Purgatory Park Master Plan Update

Park and Trail Project Manager Matt Kumka gave the report.

Walick liked the eclectic way community member's feedback is being gathered. He liked the pop-up idea because you get to talk to people who may not come to more structured events. He questioned if staff will continue doing the pop-up idea at different times and on different days so they get different samples.

Kumka replied that they will continue doing the pop-up idea but they are going to try and do it at different times knowing that people have a routine when it comes to the park and

they don't want them to miss out. They will mix it up and have a variety of times like on weekends, weekdays, evenings, etc.

Ingraham asked how many online survey responses there were.

Kumka didn't have the latest number but it was well over 150 last time he checked.

Semersky asked what they should expect at the end of this like the framework of it.

Kumka explained that they are hoping to get a to-do list out of it; these are things that folks generally think would improve the park user's experience. Some things they could get information about are: parking issues, whether or not there is enough parking, whether or not there are enough trails or if the signage is outdated. There is a myriad of things and the idea is to help staff prioritize items they need to tackle in the future. The resident feedback also provides evidence related to those particular concerns.

Ingraham asked if dogs, off-leashed dogs and dog parks have been a major area of interest so far in the responses.

Kumka said he has heard the most comments related to that particular feature of the park. The one finding so far is that people love Purgatory Park and they are very passionate about it.

8. Park Board Member Reports

Walick commented that we were glad to have Stroh on the park board. She had a lot of enthusiasm and energy, great ideas and engaged in the conversation. Second, he went to Night to Unite last night and everyone had fun in his neighborhood. A lot of people showed up and the Minnetonka Police stopped by.

Ingraham went to Summer Fest with his family and he complimented staff on a great job under interesting conditions. Everyone seemed to be having a great time and the weather pretty much cooperated. Second, he was at the new play area in Meadow Park and it is was really nice and the synthetic ground was really good. He was curious if there has been any manufacturer's feedback on the navy blue synthetic ground. He went on a hot sunny day and put his hand down and it was significantly hotter than the asphalt. If kid's had their shoes off it would've been challenging.

Woeste replied that she didn't know the answer to that but she would pass that feedback on. She asked if it was hotter than the asphalt or the concrete.

Ingraham answered hotter than the asphalt. He walked his dog through the parking lot on the asphalt and his dog was fine but when it stepped on the blue synthetic ground it yelped and jumped off. Ingraham put his hand down to feel it and it was really hot. He was just thinking about kids being on it.

Stroh thanked everyone and said it has been amazing being on the park board. She loved getting to know all of them and it has been an awesome experience. She hopes the next student member has as much fun as she did.

Woeste added that she doesn't anticipate having another student member probably until after the first of the year. That's when they go through the interview and application process.

9. Information Items

Summer Fest

Woeste gave the report.

Jacobs asked if it was canceled last year.

Woeste replied that it happened in 2022 but it was canceled in 2021.

Glen Lake Skate Park Improvements

Kumka gave the report.

10. Upcoming Park Board Agenda Items

Woeste gave the report.

Semersky asked what topics were going to be on the September agenda with council.

Woeste answered that mountain bike metrics would be on it. They will likely have more details on the master plan and perhaps something else.

Ingraham thought the council pushed their discussion out into the fall about dogs, off-leashed dogs and the ordinances. He couldn't remember if that was going to be discussed at the joint meeting or at a separate session.

Woeste said it will be part of the discussion with the Purgatory Master Plan. This is kind of the beginning of the dog discussion. No decisions will be made at the joint meeting but there will be a presentation on what they've heard so far and where they are in the process.

11. Adjournment

Jacobs moved, Beyersdorf seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. All voted "yes."
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Kline

Kathy Kline
Recreation Administrative Coordinator