

FARIBAULT PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES FOR JUNE 24, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lola Brand, Sally Kramer, Mike Ross and Troy Temple. MEMBERS ABSENT: Rahma Abdi, Chad Kreager, Bruce Krinke and Elsie Slinger. STAFF PRESENT: Director Paul Peanasky and Denise Hansen, Administrative Assistant. GUESTS: Mark Duchene, Andrea Zunkel, Teasha Archambault, Tim & Ann Hallet, Crystal Hollingsworth, John & Teresa Sarzoza, Jim Rossel, Robert & Kathy Miley and Sarah Duchene.

- 1) Meeting was called to order by Troy at 6:02 p.m.
- 2) Neighborhood Meeting - Proposed Trail at Prairie Ridge Park: Paul reviewed the map of Prairie Ridge Park showing the proposed location of the trail. Paul explained at this time the City is not looking at amenities for the park but rather the location of the trail at the park. The trail is designed to go around the outer edges of the park. The City will leave room for a row of trees between the trail and the properties adjacent to the park.

Tim Hallett, 1212 21<sup>st</sup> Street SW, asked when trail construction will begin. Mark stated bids will be requested in late July or early August so hopeful construction will begin in the fall. Kathy Miley, 1905 Prairie Avenue, asked about a fence by the park access adjacent to her property. A fence will be installed by the access. There were also questions about the trail projection on the south side of the park and if it will be an asphalt trail. The trail projection is a pedestrian walking access and the trail will be bituminous or asphalt. Paul stated there will be fencing in the corners of the park to identify park property. Letters will be sent to adjacent property owners prior to work beginning as any personal property on city property will need to be removed. Andrea Zunkel, 1817 Prairie Avenue, asked if the city will maintain the trail and the area around it. Paul stated all city parks and trails are maintained by the City of Faribault Parks Department. It was noted that the back side of the pond is not city parkland but is private property owned by Rick Cashin Construction. Board and guests discussed ball fields being built at the park. The City is currently working with the School District regarding using the Middle School ballfields for youth baseball thus allowing other amenities to be installed at Prairie Ridge Park. Guests asked if property owners will have another meeting to discuss amenities for this park. Paul stated there will be another neighborhood meeting and then the plan will go to City Council for approval. Neighbors asked about leaving the park as a wildlife area. Paul explained through the city planning process it was determined that a playground was needed in that area of the city to provide children a place to play.

Neighbors asked about trees they'd planted that encroach onto city property. Mark stated the trail is designed to avoid most of the trees. Neighbors stated they would like a playground in the area and asked when a playground could be installed. The earliest a playground could be installed would be 2021. Neighbors also asked about vandalism or damage to personal property. Paul reiterated that a tree line will be put between the trail and adjacent properties. Also, the City has not had problems in the past with damage to personal property abutting trails. A question was asked about the width of the park access from Prairie Avenue. The access is the same width as the walking path which is 10 feet wide. Neighbors asked whose responsibility it is to clean the pond and expressed concern

about the wild life in and around the pond as they would like to enjoy nature and have a nature-type park instead of playgrounds or ballfields. Others also asked if there were plans to protect existing wild life and prairie plants. Paul indicated the City Stormwater Division inspects and maintains detention ponds to ensure proper operation. Also, it has not been determined at this point what amenities will be in the park. The discussion at this time is the location of the trail at the park. Amenities will be determined at a future meeting. Mark responded to concerns of property draining correctly by stating the park naturally drains from the southwest to the northeast and trails will be installed so drainage stays the same. If needed, adjustments would be addressed in the future to ensure proper flow. There was mention of low spots and a potential spring. Both of these can be addressed at the time the park is developed. The Board and Paul thanked everyone for attending and participating in the meeting. Area neighbors will be notified of future meetings regarding plans for park development.

- 3) PowerPoint Presentation: Virtual Parks Tour: Paul presented a virtual parks tour to the Board reviewing various current and proposed City parks. Paul noted softball and baseball games will begin again per City Council action. Games had been cancelled due to COVID-19. All city park signs will be replaced in the near future. Paul stated he is hopeful the new Windsor Park playground will be installed yet this year. Washington Recreation Center is not open at this time. Board discussed Prairie Ridge Park and sharing the use of Middle School ball fields.
- 4) Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Mike, seconded by Lola to approve minutes of May 27, 2020.
- 5) Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, 2020. Board would like to meet in person at Buckham West.

Motion was made by Sally, seconded by Lola to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Hansen, Administrative Assistant