

Maple Grove Parks and Recreation Board

Special Meeting – Park Board Tour

September 15, 2022

Regular Meeting	The Special Meeting was called to order by Chair, Bill Lewis at 5:05 p.m.
Board Members Present	Board Members present were Chair Bill Lewis, Vice Chair John Ferm, Board Members Kelly Cunningham, Deb Syhre, and Andy Mielke.
Board Members Absent	Board Members absent were: Debbie Coss and Ken Helvey.
Also Present	Also present were: Phil Leith, Council Member; Kristy Barnett, Council Member; Karen Jaeger, Council Member; Judy Hanson, Council Member; Chuck Stifter, Director; Ben Jaszewski, Parks and Planning Superintendent; Aimee Peterson, Recreation Superintendent; Angie Dehn, Community Center Manager; Sheri Robertson, Assistant Finance Director; and Cara Anderson, Administrative Secretary.
Approval of Agenda	<p>Motion made by Board Chair Lewis, seconded by Vice Chair Firm to approve the agenda for the September 15, 2022 special meeting as presented.</p> <p>Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, there were five ayes and no nays. Motion carried.</p>
Park Tour	The first stop on the tour was the Gleason Athletic Fields construction site. Ben Jaszewski, Parks and Planning Superintendent walked the group through site, beginning with the concession and restroom area. He noted the look and layout of the building would be much like that at Fernbrook Fields. The next area was Field 1, the full-sized ball field on the site. Field 1 will be used for youth baseball, softball, and may be rented to outside users when appropriate and available. A portable fence would allow for a field size changes to accommodate each. A question was asked in regard to what

the fence was made of and how it would be moved. Mr. Jaszewski responded the fence was woven metal which detaches in pieces. Parkkeepers would be responsible for moving the fence to resize the field as needed. The field includes raised seating, viewing areas over the dugouts, and shade structures. The walkthrough of Gleason ended with a viewing of the other ballfields, sledding hill, pickleball court, playground, free skate area, and warming house.

The second stop on the tour was Park Service Area 5 located on 105th Avenue and Dunkirk Lane. Mr. Jaszewski reminded the group that three properties had been purchased by the city to provide a unique park in Park Service Area 5. The concept for the site plan is to be a more nature-based park, with the opportunity for a small open space for free play and possibly a community garden, if the Board decides to develop the park in that manner.

The final stop on the tour was Park Service Area 4 located along Territorial Road west of Fernbrook Lane. This future park location may include the acquisition of an existing private historical structure and land owned by Three Rivers Park through a land exchange. The site has potential to build on the unique and significant history of the early settlement of Maple Grove.

Adjournment

Motion made by Board Member Mielke, seconded by Board Member Firm to adjourn.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, there were six ayes and no nays. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chuck Stifter, Director
Parks and Recreation Board
City of Maple Grove