

MINUTES
CITY OF LEXINGTON
REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 7, 2019 –5:30 P.M.
9180 Lexington Avenue
Lexington, MN 55014

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Present Chairperson Hylton, Commissioners Fields, and Murphy. Absent Commissioner Ginter and Commissioner Koch. Also present - Council Liaison Hughes and Finance Director Galiov.

Call to order 5:30 pm

2. CITIZENS FORUM

No one wished to address the Board.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA WITH CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Fields, made motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

4. LETTERS AND COMMUNICATION

A. Notes by Mr. Pat Mahr of Centennial Lakes Little League.

Mr. Pat Mahr of Centennial Lakes Little League (CLLL) presented new ideas and quotes for the remodel and extension of the Concessions building at Memorial Park, with emphasis on the Women's restrooms. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Fields inquired about the total cost in light of the different project ideas, and if feasibility study is included. Finance Director Galiov responded that none of the related costs are included and that the actual cost will probably double, pushing it towards \$100,000, thus making the numbers provided by CLLL unrealistic. Finance Director Galiov also noted the process the City would follow in general. The Board inquired about different details regarding the proposed ideas. More discussion on the ideas followed. Mr. Mahr pointed out that a lot of his contractors would do the work at lower cost. Finance Director Galiov reminded about the process that had to be followed for public projects; Mr. Mahr replied that this is not how it was done in the past. Finance Director Galiov explained the reasons for the process, especially in the light of public funds being spent for the benefit of an outside entity. Mr. Mahr and Chairperson Hylton noted that there is a greater benefit to the City and its kids by attracting sporting events. Commissioner Fields inquired if there are any numbers or actual evidence of any benefit to the City. Discussion ensued. Chairperson Hylton and Mr. Mahr expressed their disagreement with the way the issue is looked at, it's more about spreading good will and making Lexington a better place. Finance Director Galiov explained that his objections are in general against the taxpayers of City of Lexington to carry the weight of CLLL activity. Mr. Mahr explained that his ideas were prompted by former Mayor Kurth in light of the availability of new fees from development, which could be used along with help from CLLL, as it had been done in the past. Finance Director Galiov and Liaison Hughes explained the bidding process again.

Chairperson Hylton asked what would be the next step if the Board wished to proceed with the CLLL ideas. Finance Director Galiov replied it would go to Council for discussion. Commissioner Murphy noted that it would be good to consider the CLLL ideas for the future in light of the Park Dedication fees expected from new development, but reminded that the funds for next year's budget are already allocated for blacktop and roof for the concession building. Mr. Mahr expressed concern about the expected rise in cost in the future. Discussion ensued. Finance Director Galiov pointed out that there are concerns with outside financing and the possible consequences for the City if a project is left unfinished. Finance Director Galiov also pointed out that increase in assets brings increase in maintenance costs for the City. The comment drew an angry response from Mr. Mahr, who in detail expressed his disapproval of Finance Director Galiov. Finance Director Galiov responded that his goal is preventing the Board from getting inaccurate information, disagreed with Mr. Mahr's accusations, and reiterated that as an officer of the City he has to make sure the City's interests are protected. More discussion on the process of approval followed. Chairperson Hylton asked again about the process if the Board wished to proceed with the CLLL ideas. Finance Director Galiov replied it should be presented to Council for discussion. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Fields raised the issue that this discussion should be about City parks and use of city funds in general, and how the Board would proceed. Liaison Hughes agreed that the vision of the Board and the City should be at issue. Discussion ensued.

More discussion occurred on the details of the idea for remodeling the concessions building for the needs of CLLL.

Commissioner Fields inquired if he is correct in his understanding that if any project is to be completed, the City would be the project manager. Finance Director Galiov confirmed.

Chairperson Hylton raised the issue of follow-up steps. Finance Director Galiov and Liaison Hughes explained the process and the associated initial engineering costs. More discussion followed on the proposals, funding and expected Park Dedication fees. Commissioner Murphy and Finance Director Galiov shared their conservative outlook about the fees; Finance Director Galiov gave a brief overview of the Park Dedication fee restrictions.

Commissioner Fields brought up again the issue if this is the best use of Memorial Park – as Ball fields, and if this would be the City's vision for Memorial park. Commissioner Fields suggested that "we should not put the cart before the horse", and should decide on the overall look of Lexington parks. Discussion ensued.

Chairperson Hylton insisted on taking action. The Board agreed to present the ideas to the City Council for review. Commissioner Murphy asked the Board's recommendation should include commitment from CLLL. Liaison Hughes replied that he would convey that to the Council. Finance Director Galiov asked for clarification on the amount, if any, for the record and for giving the Council a better idea. Mr. Mahr stated that \$60,000 would be the number he can give at the moment.

Chairperson Hylton asked when this would be presented to Council. Liaison Hughes replied that it go to the Workshop on Thursday, October 17. Commissioner Fields moved to approve presenting the CLLL ideas at the workshop. Chairperson Hylton seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

5. APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MINUTES

Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Field, made a motion to approve the Park Board Minutes of September 9th, 2019. Motion carried.

6. ACTION ITEMS:

A. None.

7. NOTE COUNCIL MINUTES:

- A. September 5, 2019
- B. September 20, 2019

8. PARK BOARD INPUT

Chairperson Hylton presented Commissioner Koch's suggestions for work to be done by the Board at various City locations. Discussion ensued.

Finance Director Galiov and Liaison Hughes updated the Board on the installation of new City monument sign.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fields seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 7.02 pm.