



PARK SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PLAN PUBLIC FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 10, 2021

7:00 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

MINUTES

Members Present: Scott Brinkhaus, Steve Schmit, Rachel Schwankl, Walter Smith, Alesia Thompson, Lee Pao Xiong

Members Absent: Ron Ackerman and Warren Stock

Others Present: Daniel Tienter, Finance Director/City Treasurer/City Clerk

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Tienter, Staff Liaison, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Tienter explained the meeting started late as the group waited for some absent Committee Members.

2. Icebreaker Activity

Mr. Tienter led the group in an introduction and icebreaker activity. Those present introduced themselves, provided some information on their favorite park within the City and stated why they were interested in joining the Committee.

3. Meeting Guidelines

Mr. Tienter reviewed the meeting guidelines and expectations of committee members. He noted the main expectations from the Committee and Staff Liaison are:

- a. Actively test assumptions and positions of each other and themselves;
- b. Ask genuine questions and make honest statements;
- c. Focus on the interest of the community;
- d. Keep the meetings on track;
- e. Take care of their personal needs;
- f. Any questions or concerns will be brought forward and addressed;
- g. Ensure the meetings are steered by the committee members; and
- h. Keep the meetings under 90 minutes.

4. Public Finance Advisory Committee Charter

Mr. Tienter reviewed the Committee charter and mission, which outlines the framework of the group's work, the structure of meetings and the role of the Committee in the overall Park System Improvement Plan (Plan). He reiterated that this is an advisory committee tasked with making a recommendation to the City Council.

5. Park System Improvement Plan Background and Overview

Mr. Tienter provided a presentation and overview of the Fridley Park System, previous improvements made and, current conditions. He provided an overview of what the residents identified as the priorities for the park system plans:

- a. Safe connected parks and trails;
- b. Nature access; and
- c. Flexible gathering spaces and facilities.

Mr. Tienter elaborated on factors the Committee will be asked to take into consideration through this process are to build on vibrancy, maintain and expand on safety and stewardship, make parks for people in all different stages of their lives and, how to build the recreation department around the amenities they create.

6. Other Items

Mr. Tienter provided the Committee with an overview of financing options the City can use for this Plan. He reviewed the budget of \$30 million and time frame of 10 years that is expected for completion of this project, as set by the City Council.

There was discussion among the committee members regarding the bonds and what they will be expected to act on for the next meeting.

7. Future Meeting Schedule

Mr. Tienter reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for the Committee. He stated they can move meetings as needed down the line, noting they will need to make changes to the schedule five or more days ahead of time so the public can be informed pursuant to public notice requirements and direction of the City Council.

The Committee Members discussed the proposed schedule, as presented, and agreed that it would work.

8. Open Forum

Committee Member Schwankl asked for clarification on what is expected of them at the next meeting. Mr. Tienter stated the biggest thing they will be asked to recommend is the bond financing. He stated they can recommend the type of bond, the sizing of the bond, how much of the budget should come from internal resources, how much should come from fundraising or donations and, the manner in

which any fundraising occurs. He reiterated they only set perimeters are the 10 years, \$30 million budget, otherwise noted any ideas or thoughts they have can be put on the table.

Mr. Tienter stated the next meeting is on August 24, 2021 and thanked the Committee Members for their time. He stated they will receive an agenda for the next meeting prior to it and noted if they have any questions beforehand to feel free to contact him.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michaela Daniels, Recording Secretary