

**CITY OF MAYER  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022 @ 6:30 P.M.  
CITY HALL**

1. Call to Order

**The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.**

Those present from the Park Commission: Mike Wegner, Chad Heldt, Melissa Gomes, and Ryan Kusske.

Staff: Margaret McCallum, City Administrator and Public Works Lead, Kyle Kuntz.

Absent: Eric Vogel.

Also present: Dave Wasser, Zion Lutheran School Representative.

2. Approve Agenda

McCallum asked to move the two business items around.

**Heldt moved to adopt the Park Commission agenda as amended. Gomes seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

3. Minutes

February 8, 2022, Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

**Kusske moved to approve the Park and Recreation Commission Minutes from the February 8, 2022, Meeting. Gomes seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

4. Business

A. Zion Lutheran Expansion Concept Plan

McCallum presented this item for the Park Commission to review. She stated that Zion Evangelical Lutheran church is proposing an expansion on their property located at 209 Bluejay Avenue and 209 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW.

McCallum stated that the preliminary concept includes expanding into the City of Mayer's current Old Schoolhouse Park parkland. It is currently used as a baseball field.

McCallum explained that this preliminary concept went to the Planning Commission at their March 1, 2022 meeting for review and that it will go to the City Council for review at their March 14, 2022 meeting.

The Park Commission reviewed the preliminary concept provided in the packet.

Wasser explained that this is a very preliminary concept and that some changes have already been considered. He provided a background on the need for expansion for the school and church as they are running out of space. He stated that over the last few years, they have had to turn away 65 potential students for this reason.

Wasser reviewed the concept that would include a phased approach. The first phase would focus on creating more classroom space (and parking), followed by the construction of a new church and gym. He said that the concept includes having shared parking where the current city park is. He said it could be shared between the city and school per an agreement.

Wasser and McCallum presented some additional information on additional land that Zion owns located off of County Road 30 to the southeast of town. Wasser informed that the school owns the land and that the intention of the land was to expand out there at some point. McCallum said that the current issue related to trying to develop out there is that it is outside city limits and that it would be difficult to get water and sewer access to the site at this time.

Within the concept, there is a lot of green space that would be covered and used for building space. There was concern expressed over the school having a space for kids to play and do recreation. Wasser stated they are looking at solutions including potentially moving some of the concept building locations to create more greenspace, or to work with Mayer Lutheran High School to use some of their land.

Wegner stated that parking for Old School House Park is a concern that the Park Commission has been trying to address for some time. It is a long-term goal of the Park Commission to expand parking in this area. Wegner liked the idea of shared parking to increase parking at this location.

The Park Commission and Wasser agreed that logistics on who would own and manage parking space is something that would need to be discussed and agreed upon.

Collectively, the Park Commission showed support for the presented concept with the understanding that it is a preliminary concept and that a lot of details will still need to be figured out in the future if it moves forward.

## B. Old School House Park Pavilion.

McCallum provided a summary of the joint Park Commission/City Council meeting that was held on February 8, 2022. The goal of that meeting was to review the Old School House Pavilion and discuss the future of the project.

McCallum stated that at the end of the meeting, there was a consensus to have staff talk with the architect to see if a solution could be found to address cost concerns and other minor concerns. McCallum informed that she and Kuntz met with the architect to discuss changes to the pavilion. She presented the updated pavilion concept to the Park Commission.

Kuntz added more technical information on the changes to the pavilion. He stated that this project has been in discussion for over 10 years.

McCallum informed that the new design would still have three plumbed bathrooms, still have adequate picnic table seating and two counter spaces for gathering capabilities.

Wegner stated that he liked the new concept and that it had two separate areas (on the south and north) where groups could gather. He liked the wrap around design of the pavilion.

The Park Commission overall agreed that they were in agreement with the new design directing staff to work with the architect to see if the building could be moved back 2 feet and move the water fountains to the south and north next to the counters.

McCallum stated that the next steps would be to bring this design to the City Council and recommend that the City Council approve the architect move forward with the final designs and bidding documents. She stated that these costs are \$20,000.

**Gomes moved to approve recommending to the City Council having the architect do the final design work and create the final documents for the bidding documents in the amount of \$20,000. Heldt Seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

## 5. Staff Updates

McCallum stated that with the warmer weather starting at the beginning of March, the Public Works Department has decided not to continue with the maintenance of the Old School House Park ice rink for the remainder of the season.

Kuntz reported that it was a good year, but that the continuing warmer weather will not support ongoing ice rink maintenance.

## 6. Commissioner Reports

None.

7. Adjournment

**Kusske moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Heldt Seconded. Motion passed 4-0.**

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