

Minutes
of the
NORTH MANKATO PARK & GREEN SPACES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
North Mankato, Minnesota
November 18, 2008

A meeting of the North Mankato Park & Green Spaces Advisory Committee was held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 in the Police Annex Community Room.

Park & Green Spaces Advisory Committee members present: Chair Diane Norland, Nancy Gehrke, Jim Santori, Joe Kluender, John Hurd, Tom Hagen, Rob Johnston, and Bess Tsause. Also in attendance was Bruce Chalupsky of Paulsen Architects.

Chair Norland reviewed the agenda items as follows:

1. Presentation of Jacob Thompson Fishing Pier drawings from Bruce Chalupsky of Paulsen Architects.
2. Report from Benson Park Subcommittee.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Joe Kluender, seconded by Robert Johnston, to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2008 and October 14, 2008 Park & Green Spaces Advisory meetings. With all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

Presentation of Jacob Thompson Fishing Pier Drawings

Bruce Chalupsky, Senior Landscape Architect & Planner with Paulsen Architects, appeared before the Park & Green Spaces Advisory Committee and presented three concept plans for the Jacob Thompson fishing pier. Concept 1 is a bridge with a span of approximately 180' from the large cottonwoods on the east bank of Spring Lake to the pavilion on the west bank using a craftsman style with natural stone for the base and pillars and the memorial in the center of the bridge. Concept 2 is a bridge in the same area with the memorial on the west end with pavers and benches that can be dedicated to other area soldiers. Concept 3 is a walkway opening to a large platform showing two stone pillars. The taller pillar will have the Jacob Thompson Memorial dedication plaque mounted on it. Discussion was held about the use of native materials and stone and the long-term maintenance of the materials. Chair Norland polled the members of the Committee for their preferred concept of the fishing pier. The majority of the members preferred Concept 2.

Report from Benson Park Subcommittee

Jim Santori reported on the Benson Park Subcommittee meeting that was held at 4 p.m. today. The Benson Park consultants met with the subcommittee and presented three concept plans. Plan 1 was a Natural Resources Park theme, Concept 2 featured an Eco-Park theme and Concept 3 featured a Cultural Heritage Park theme. The consensus of the subcommittee was the Natural Resources Park theme. The consultants will incorporate input from this meeting and develop a draft Park Master Plan and meet with the subcommittee at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2009. An open house for the public will be held on February 2, 2009 to gather any additional input.

Other Business

Chair Norland reported there will not be a Park & Green Spaces Advisory meeting in December. The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2009.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Chair

Secretary