

**CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE
RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

April 11, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Mountlake Terrace City Hall
23204 58th Ave W
Mountlake Terrace, WA

PRESENT

Noah Knodle, Chair
Keith Edholm (via teleconference)
Austin Horner
Alana Niemi
Audrey Meyer

EXCUSED

Molly Luna, Vice Chair

ABSENT

Council Liaison

Councilor Laura Sonmore

City Staff

Jeff Betz, Recreation and Parks Director
Ken Courtmanch, Parks and Property Management Superintendent

1 CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Knodle called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2 ROLL CALL:

The roll was called with Commissioners Knodle, Edholm, Horner, Meyer and Niemi present. Commissioner Meyer moved to excuse Commissioner Luna. Commissioner Horner seconded. Motion passes 5 yes, 0 no.

3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of the March 14, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Niemi moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Edholm seconded. Motion passes 5 yes, 0 no.

4 PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

5 REVIEW NPIS GUIDLINES:

Superintendent Courtmanch reported that the Neighborhood Park Improvement Subcommittee (NPIS) had requested a review of the guidelines particularly considering the secretary position. The subcommittee had noted that since meetings are now being recorded, a secretary position was no longer necessary and requested changing the position to a vice chair position. Mr. Courtmanch said he had created a draft update of the guidelines with the change and other minor updates and shared a tracked version on the

screen. The Commission reviewed the draft guidelines and discussed the proposed changes as well as making some suggested edits.

Commissioner Niemi moved to approve the changes to the NPIS guidelines.
Commissioner Meyer seconded. Motion passes 5 yes, 0 no.

6 2023 WORK-PLAN:

Superintendent Courtmanch noted that this was the first meeting since the presentation before Council and that this would be a good time to discuss the process and make any suggestions for the next opportunity to present before council. The consensus of the group was that the presentation went well and the group was well received by the Council. The Commission further commented that they were appreciative of the opportunity to be in the room and have a discussion directly with the Council. Moving forward the group discussed some possible ways to protect the existing parks from development as well as looking for acquisition opportunities to expand the current park system.

7 TREE BOARD UPDATE:

Superintendent Courtmanch reported that staff is still working with Osbourne Consulting on a reforestation plan throughout the park system. The firm is currently working up a final schedule and the plan would be made available to the tree board once received.

Superintendent Courtmanch also reported that the Earth Day/Arbor Day event is scheduled for April 22nd. The Ivy League has agreed to attend the event as part of their work party as well. He also noted that a local Girl Scout Troop will be in attendance working on the Girl Scout Tree Promise which is a scout program to teach the importance of trees and that they will be planting a tree in Veterans Memorial Park.

Director Betz reported that the Arbor Day Foundation has selected Mountlake Terrace as a Tree City USA for another year.

Commissioner Meyer reported that the tree stakeholder group has met twice and are meeting every other week. The group intends on bringing information to the RPAC at a future meeting.

8 REPORTS FROM CHAIR AND MEMBERS:

Commissioner Meyer reported that she had a discussion with animal control that included the possibility of a dog park in the Ballinger area. The group discussed the possibility and also noted that this was brought up during the master planning process and rejected.

Commissioner Edholm reported that the NPIS is scheduled to meet on the 20th.

Chair Knodle reported that WDFW had restocked Lake Ballinger and that the fishing pier was being well used.

9 COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Councilor Sonmore reported that there will be information on the Fire Annexation at a meeting on April 12th at 6:00 pm at City Hall. She also reported that the new City Manager Jeff Niten is scheduled to start on April 17th. Additionally she noted that there is a meeting scheduled to review the art submittals for the plaza near the light rail station on April 19th at 5:30 at City Hall. Also that Coffee with the City is the next Wednesday and the next Council workshop is next Thursday.

The Councilor further reported on the numerous construction projects that are scheduled throughout the city including the old Roger's Market site and the current light rail surface parking at 59th. She also reported on numerous house bills that will be coming up before the legislature.

10 STATUS REPORT:

Director Betz reported that the city was in line to receive a YAF grant for lighting at Evergreen field #5. He also noted that staff is looking into the next round of grants through the RCO and is considering continuing the Veterans Memorial Park master plan as well as Terrace Creek park improvements and asked the Commission to consider other grant possibilities.

Superintendent Courtmanch reported that the Hall Creek Restoration Project will be getting underway soon. There was a construction meeting earlier in the day and they plan to mobilize in early May. He also reported that the Ballinger play equipment surface should be poured sometime in May and a final compaction test has been scheduled prior to the soft surface pour.

11 ADJOURNMENT:

As there were no further items for discussion, Chair Knodle adjourned the meeting at 8:17 pm.