



RICHFIELD VILLAGE PARKS AND RECREATION
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2005

The March 3, 2005 Richfield Village Park and Recreation meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL: Present were Daniels, Gantner, Ahlborg and Tretter. Also present were Mayor Lyons, Councilperson Lanford and Chris Soukup.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A **MOTION** was made by Ahlborg and second by Gantner to approve the February 7, 2005 minutes as presented. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Lyons presented Mr. Chris Soukop, Attorney. Mr. Soukop gave a presentation on the *Land Preservation, The Economic Benefits and Strategies*.

Mr. Soukop stated the local governments must take the lead in land preservation. Smart growth planning will help:

- Preserve character of communities**
- Keep neighborhood qualities that bring people together**
- Keep people healthy**
- Save money on infrastructure and property taxes**

Suggested strategies are to *inventory* undeveloped lands in the community, *identify* ownership, physical and ecological characteristics, location, value, etc, to *prioritize* ecological attributes, development pressure, location, etc and to *strategize*, develop solutions for preservation.

The conclusion of land preservation is:

- *No one else but you will take the lead**
- *Encourage smart growth planning & regulatory action**
- *Evaluate & prioritize the best economic return on the use of undeveloped lands (it may well be to keep them undeveloped)**
- * Plan ahead to acquire the most ecologically valuable undeveloped parcels (focus on watersheds)**
- *Be proactive in the acquisition process**

One suggestion is the formation of a Land Legacy.

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MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Lyons presented and reported on the 2005 budget.

COUCIL REPORT: none

TREE COMMISSION: See attached minutes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jocek reported on the OPRA convention that she attended. One of the main topics was "marketing" parks and recreation. Jocek stated that the spring and summer brochure is out and hopefully we will have a large registration.

OLD BUSINESS: Daniels reviewed the park and recreation strategic plan and where we are:
We have created a mission statement.
Identified our goals for parks and recreation.
Need to identify the park board job description.
Land preservation and land assessment as a goal.

The board discussed the updated park rules

A MOTION was made by Ahlborg and second by Tretter to remove the \$25 fee from the rules and to pass them as amended. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted by: _____

Ruth Jocek, Director
Richfield Village Parks and Rec.

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