

PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY JUNE, 2 2025 7:00PM

CITY OF NORTH BRANCH

LYNN WILSON, FARFUM LADROMA, CHARLES KLOPP, WENDY CHELBERG, ROBERT BERNIER

MAYOR KEVIN SCHIEBER, CITY STAFF

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

a. Member Bernier motions to approve agenda, seconded by Ladroma. All aye, motion passed unanimously.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of June 2, 2025 Minutes. Bernier makes a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ladroma. All aye, motion passes unanimously.

6. REPORTS

a. Park Fund Balances

b. Project Updates

Klopp noted that concrete work was completed at the Riverwalk Park scout project. Wilson inquired to project budget status. Sondrol noted that it was under budget and that he would be finishing the bench installation in July.

i. Comprehensive Plan

Mark Olson noted that he lives adjacent to the park and felt that soccer fields would create significant parking and traffic issues in the neighborhood.

Kathy Sims Hernandez noted that she lives adjacent to the park and noted that there is a lot of wildlife in the park and that the park playground equipment and walking paths receives significant usage.

Haylee Goulet noted that there are 7 home owners associations within the Wildridge development. There was discussion on property owner notifications

Sondrol provided an aerial map showing the boundaries of the park and an overview of the survey recently completed, noting that trails/walking paths were the most desired amenity, followed by pickleball courts, along with a dog park and noting soccer fields were noted as not desired by the majority of the surveys. He noted that the commission was looking for continued feedback from the community on Wildridge Park as well as all other park and trail facilities to help plan for future park and trail improvements. He noted that there will be multiple public meetings discussing the comprehensive plan for the public to provide public input on the plan.

Molly noted her family utilizes the park regularly and enjoys the park. She expressed ideally the warming house would be staffed more in the winter and felt that parking would need to be addressed for more development.

Bernier noted that when they moved into the development in 2006 they were aware of the plans for soccer fields.

Sondrol noted that the commission has discussed installing info kiosks in each park to better inform residents along with improvements to the city's website.

The commission went through each of the park sites maps and proposed improvements and added the following:

Shade Protection in each of the parks

Riverwalk Park

- Dome Structure awning

Tower Fields

- Dugout roofing

Clayton Anderson

- Shelter
- Limestone with informational/educational signage
- Benches and Picnic Tables

Northwood

- Shade Structure for playground equipment

Roger Johnson

- security lighting
- Additional parking lot access point

Harder Park

- Dugout roofs
- Trail connection to development to the west
- Portable restroom pad on north end

Central Park

- Bathrooms
- Walkway connections to amenities
- Veterans Memorial
- Utility box painting
- Flags

Williams Park

- Baseball field with lighting
- Splash pad
- Community Center
- Destination playground

The Commission discussed reviewing the park dedication fees.

Scheiber expressed incorporating a bigger picture of how the community values its parks and trails as part of the comprehensive review process.

Motion by Bernier to adjourn. Seconded by Wilson. All voted AYE. Meeting adjourned.

8. NEXT MEETING – July 7, 2025

9. ADJOURNMENT

Member Bernier motions to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ladroma. All aye, motion approved unanimously.

Comp Plan

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