

## Chairperson

Judy Lissick

## Commission Members

Brooke Thomson - Vice  
Chairperson

Laura Eck

Alexa Farah

Kari Hauck

William Johnson

Erinn Robovsky

Mark Otto, Alternate

Amanda McFarlane, Alternate

Katherine Doll Kanne, Council  
Liaison

Kaylin Clement, Staff Liaison



## The City of Vadnais Heights

800 East County Road E  
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

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### Regular Meeting of the Park, Recreation & Trails Commission

*Monday, September 18, 2023 -  
6:00 pm*

*Vadnais Heights City Hall*

### **AGENDA**

[Watch Meeting Live or Watch  
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1. Roll Call

2. Approve The Agenda

Documents:

[AGENDA 9.18.23.PDF](#)

3. Approve The Minutes - May 15, 2023

Documents:

[FINAL MINUTES 5.15.23.PDF](#)

4. 2023 Street Improvement Project Update

5. Koehler Road Trail Update

6. Master Plan Process Discussion

7. Commission Updates

8. Adjourn

*Chairperson*  
**Judy Lissick**

*Vice-Chairperson*  
**Brooke Thomson**

*Park, Recreation & Trails Commission*

**Laura Eck**  
**Alexa Farah**  
**Kari Hauck**  
**William Johnson**  
**Erinn Robovsky**

**Alternate #1, Mark Otto**  
**Alternate #2, Amanda McFarlane**

**Katherine Doll Kanne, Council Liaison**  
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**MEETING OF THE  
PARK, RECREATION & TRAILS COMMISSION  
Monday, September 18, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.  
VADNAIS HEIGHTS CITY HALL**

**AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Approve the Agenda – September 18, 2023
3. Approve the Minutes – May 15, 2023
4. Open to the Public
5. Street Improvement Project Update – Public Works Director, Jim Hauth
6. Koehler Road Trail Update – Public Works Director, Jim Hauth
7. Master Plan Process Discussion – Chairperson Lissick
8. Commissioner Updates
  - Adjourn

*Chairperson*  
**Judy Lissick**

*Vice-Chairperson*  
**Brooke Thomson**

*Park, Recreation & Trails Commission*  
**Laura Eck - absent**  
**Alexa Farah**  
**Kari Hauck**  
**William Johnson**  
**Erinn Robovsky**

**Alternate #1, Mark Otto**  
**Alternate #2, Amanda McFarlane**

**Katherine Doll Kanne, Council Liaison**  
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**MEETING OF THE  
PARK, RECREATION & TRAILS COMMISSION  
Monday, May 15, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.  
VADNAIS HEIGHTS CITY HALL**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**1. Roll Call**

6:01 pm called to order, Commissioner Eck not present

**2. Approve the Agenda**

Motion to approve by Thomson, seconded Hauck, all in favor

**3. Approve the Minutes – April 17, 2023**

Motion to approve made by Johnson, seconded by Farah, all in favor

**4. Open to the Public**

**5. Gaga Ball Court/Light Recommendation Finalization** – Asst. City Administrator, Kaylin Clement  
Asst. City Administrator Clement presented staff recommendations for some of the top Commissioner inventory recommendations, including a light on the sledding hill at Kohler Meadows, gaga ball pit costs/potential locations, and benches at the Bridgewood pickleball courts.

## ***LIGHT***

Commissioner Otto inquired about the power connection to the proposed new light at Kohler Meadows, which Asst. City Administrator confirmed following the meeting, was going to be run from County Rd. F. The group discussed adding a switch or some other option to the parking lot area to illuminate people coming and going from the lit sledding hill.

Johnson wanted to note that the light would need to be set so that it could not be turned on after a certain time (10:00 pm) even if the button was pressed, as well as deactivated in the summer months when it is light longer into the evenings, as to disturb the neighboring homes as little as possible.

## ***GAGA BALL PIT***

Otto shared his children's thoughts on gaga ball, noting it's a dying trend. The group asked Asst. City Administrator Clement to gather feedback from other recreation departments in the area to see whether or not (if they have gaga ball pits in their public facilities) they are still popular/worth the investment.

If determined that the gaga ball pits are something other communities see as an asset in their parks, the Commission agreed to try one pit at Berwood Park, option A (from the map provided in the packet). Commissioner Lissick noted the other site locations for potential pits (Bridgewood and Wolters) would hopefully garner some other potential uses/wants from the community when/if a Parks Master Plan process begins. Commissioner McFarlane added the ADA accessible doors were a good option, and the mats vs. other surfaces will accommodate those with mobility challenges.

Robovsky noted people have requested volleyball at Berwood for some time. Asst. City Administrator Clement was asked to look into the volleyball discussion from a few years ago to refresh the group as to why that option was not recommended by staff when previously brought up.

## ***BENCHES***

Otto said aluminum benches are cheaper, and was concerned with the longevity of the proposed recycled composite benches recommended. Chairperson Lissick suggested leaving it up to staff, after it was explained that the composite benches will be friendlier to the court surface, and could be secured to the fencing via cable rather than anchoring them to the court itself. Hauck said the benches were a good idea, it's nice to have a place to put your things, and the composite benches would be less hot in the summer months.

Discussion on other potential improvements, such as a covered picnic table, mulched paths, benches along the trail to Centerville, and signage, was had, which will be discussed more in depth at the next (on-site) Commission meeting at Bridgewood Park on Monday, June 12.

Motion to move forward with light, benches in pickleball court, and one gaga ball Berwood site A if we have favorable feedback from other communities was made by Thomson, seconded by Farah, all in favor.

6. Select Next Meeting(s) On Site Locations

Bridgewood Park on site location – June 12, 2023 in lieu of regular third Monday of each month in observance of Juneteenth

7. Updates

- Adjourn at 7:15 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Thomson, seconded by Farah, all in favor.