

Tom Nordyke

1. Why are you running for this position? **I am running for re-election because I feel that I have contributed a great deal to the Park Board, particularly in the past two years as President, in the form of a return to civility and functionality, fiscal responsibility and a more responsive government. There is still a lot to do, which is why I want to continue to serve.**
2. Describe your background and why it makes you a good candidate for the position you seek? **I am currently the President of the Park Board and have learned a great deal over my first term. I am looking forward to applying that knowledge to getting things done in my second term.**
3. If elected, how will you work with the Lyndale Neighborhood Association and Lyndale community members to help us improve our neighborhood? **We need to direct more resources to the neighborhood parks like Painter & Bryant Square. The “Legacy Funds” from the recently enacted State sale tax will help free up resources for the neighbor parks.**
4. What will your top priorities be if you are elected? **My top priority will be to work with the City and State to find ways to solve the major capital and infrastructure crisis facing the Park Board. Other priorities will include continuing to focus on accountability and transparency in government and community based decision-making. I will continue my commitment to the Above the Falls Plan, the East Phillips Community Center, Phillips Pool & Gym and improving our neighborhood park system.**
5. For City Council & Mayoral Candidates
 - a. What is your view on the role of neighborhood organizations in Minneapolis and how will you work with and support these organizations if you are elected?
 - b. What will your approach be to ensuring the City is financially healthy over the long-term?
6. For Park Board Candidates
 - a. How will you improve the amount and quality of youth programming in the parks? **Expanding the neighborhood volunteer base is important for expanding youth programming, since most of our resources that support that programming come from volunteers. We also need to focus on partnership with private philanthropic groups that can support and expand youth programs. I also want to continue to work to expand the “Learn to Earn & Teen Teamworks” programs.**
 - b. How will make sure the Park Board and local parks are responsive and connected to the communities they serve? **We have made great strides in this area over the past four years as we have worked to refocus on community responsiveness. A great example of this is the extensive public process used to create the new Comprehensive Plan.**