

**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**  
**Recreation & Parks Advisory Commission**  
**Minutes**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL - The Recreation & Parks Advisory Commission meeting was held at Operations and Maintenance and was called to order by Chairperson Erickson at 6:07 PM**

**Commission Members present:**

Dwain Erickson, Chairperson  
Joe Gomez, Vice-Chair  
Latrina Caldwell, At-large  
Doug Crandall, At-large  
Deborah Lande, Central  
Taylor Murray, East  
Terry Parks, At-large  
Judy Purcell, Central  
Kellina Quigley, At-large  
Joshua Uloth, West

**Commission Members absent:**

Mercy Matthews, West  
Miriam Osammor, East  
Aria Reickard, Youth Liaison  
Klarissa Yu, Youth Liaison

**Brooklyn Park Staff present:**

Brad Tullberg, Director of Recreation and Parks  
Greg Hoag, Parks and Buildings Maintenance Manager  
Jeanine Machan, Administrative Assistant

- 2. OPEN FORUM-PUBLIC COMMENT AND RESPONSE**

N/A

- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**A Motion was made to Approve the May 15, 2024 agenda by Commissioner Lande and second by Commissioner Purcell.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A Motion was made to Approve the April 17, 2024 minutes by Commissioner Uloth and second by Commissioner Parks.**

**Motion unanimously approved.**

- 5. ACTION ITEMS**

N/A

- 6. GENERAL INFORMATION - PRESENTATIONS**

**1. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ANNUAL REPORT**

Greg Hoag, Operations and Maintenance Parks and Buildings Manager introduced Director of Operations and Maintenance Dan Ruiz and Chris Sullivan, Field Supervisor of Operations and Maintenance.

Manager Hoag provided a PowerPoint presentation (see attached 4.1A 5.15.24 RPAC ANNUAL PRESENTATION), an overview of the relationship with Recreation and Parks and the highlights of work performed by O & M Department with special emphasis on the forest operations around the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) issue.

Questions / Comments:

Commissioner Parks: Are there trails that still require connections? Director Tullberg responded – yes.

Chairperson Erickson: How is land acquired for trails? Director Ruiz stated that most are converted sidewalks.

Commissioner Uloth: What is the difference between trails and sidewalks? Director Ruiz stated sidewalks are made of concrete and typically 5 or 6 feet wide, and trails are generally asphalt and 8 to 10 feet wide.

Commissioner Lande: Thank you for plowing the trails in the winter.

Director Ruiz gave kudos to Manager Hoag for the grants received to work the Emerald Ash tree treatments/removal.

Commissioner Lande: What are the replacement trees being planted? Manager Hoag stated that it is a large variety of trees excluding Maple, Ash, crabs and spruce trees.

Commissioner Purcell: What is the Ash Borer treatment? Manager Hoag stated it is a chemical treatment that is applied at the base of the tree.

Commissioner Uloth: Do you have a preference for native trees? Manager Hoag stated staff try to plant natives but first is planting the right tree for the location.

Chairperson Erickson: stated for confirmation that the DNR is a state agency.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS**

### **7.1 CANNABIS DISCUSSION – MAY 6**

## **8. WRITTEN REPORTS**

1. PROGRAM AND EVENTS UPDATE
2. PARK PROJECTS UPDATE
3. DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Tullberg highlighted the new Programming Supervisor Amber Rotramel.

## **9. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. OPEN FORUM – QUESTION AND ANSWERS**

Director Tullberg asked the Commissioners for feedback on the presentation given at the last meeting on Transportation. The three options were: Elder Micro-Transit, Event Transportation and Youth Circulator Bus.

Commissioner Parks: Suggested a representative from Met Council and Hennepin County come in to talk about what those two councils may offer the city for transportation.

Commissioner Murray suggested that if it is in the budget to look at Event transportation, noting the others of Elder and Youth are also important. Suggested choosing one and trying it out.

Commissioner Lande asked if staff can determine which of the three has the greatest need of participators and focus on that option.

A suggestion was made to do a trial basis to test the effectiveness.

Commissioner Lande feels that the Elder and Youth has the sticking power to be utilized.

Director Tullberg stated that he will work with staff to look at what a pilot program would look like, and costs associated with the Elder and Youth options.

Director Tullberg asked for ideas on what commissioners would want to tour this summer?

Commissioner Uloth suggested the Mississippi Gateway Regional Park redevelopment.

Commissioner Parks asked about the Eidem Historic Farm changes.

Commissioner Parks noted that volunteers were still needed for Tater Daze.

Chairperson Erickson noted the upcoming "Walk the Trinity Gardens".

## **10. VERBAL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **1. CITY COUNCIL UPDATE - No Report**

Director Tullberg stated that our City Council representative will be attending the July RPAC meeting.

### **2. CITY HALL ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE**

Chairperson Erickson stated that the focus will be on the main floor of City Hall.

### **3. COMMUNITY GOALS STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE - Commissioner Parks**

Commissioner Parks stated the last meeting was cancelled. Next meeting will be end of May.

### **4. KEY TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT RPAC MEETING**

- JUNE – NO MEETING
- JULY - PARK BOND PROJECT UPDATES

5. KEY DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS

Director Tullberg noted there will be a joint Council/Commissioners meeting. It is typically the first Monday in August. Watch for email communications to come.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**A Motion was made by Commissioner Uloth to close the meeting, second by Commissioner Gomez. Motion unanimously approved.**

**Adjourned by Chairperson Erickson at 7:34 PM**

Submitted respectfully,  
Jeanine Machan  
Secretary

**Attachments:**

**4.1A 5.15.24 RPAC ANNUAL PRESENTATION**