

Wednesday, October 16, 2024
Recreation & Parks Advisory Commission
Minutes

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL - The Recreation & Parks Advisory Commission meeting was held at the Community Activity Center in Grand Room 1 and was called to order by Chairperson Erickson at 6:00 PM**

Commission Members present:

Dwain Erickson, Chairperson
Vice-chair Judy Purcell
Doug Crandall, At-large
Terry Parks, At-large
Kellina Quigley, At-large
Joshua Uloth, West

Aria Reickard, Youth Liaison

Councilmember McGarvey

Absent:

Latrina Caldwell, At-large
Mercy Matthews, West
Taylor Murray, East
Miriam Osammor, East
Klarissa Yu, Youth Liaison

No Quorum

Brooklyn Park Staff present:

Brad Tullberg, Director of Recreation and Parks
Jeanine Machan, Administrative Assistant

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

N/A

- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

No Quorum

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No Quorum

- 5. ACTION ITEMS**

NA

- 6. GENERAL INFORMATION - PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 PROPOSAL FOR PARK TO HONOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Director Tullberg introduced Cheryl and Oscar Avina who provided a presentation on the request for setting aside land for indigenous people in Brooklyn Park.

Questions/Comments:

Commissioner Parks asked if other cities were being approached? Ms. Avina stated just Brooklyn Park.

Commissioner Parks commented that it might be a good idea to also include Three Rivers Park District.

Commissioner Crandall asked if there was any land by the Three Rivers Park?

Director Tullberg brought up the city map and showed an area to consider that is near the future park land at 169 / 101th and Winnetka Ave.

Commissioner Uloth asked have any other suburbs turned over land to indigenous people? Ms. Avina stated she has not heard of any other cities yet but there are some discussions.

Commissioner Uloth also suggested asking if Hennepin County Technical College might have some land.

Vice-Chair Purcell asked for clarification on what the park focus would be? Ms. Avina stated it would be an educational park and in collaboration with recreation programming to host events such as art. Vice-Chair Purcell stated that having a community garden is a good idea.

Director Tullberg asked if Ms. Avina knew of any other parks that could be looked at for ideas on what can be done? Ms. Avina stated that she will do some research and provide what she finds.

6.2 YOUTH SERVICES

Director Tullberg introduced Pam McBride, Manager of Youth Services. Pam provided a PowerPoint presentation (see attached)

Questions/Comments

Commissioner Uloth stated that the work is hard to track and asked if Ms. McBride thought the staff was being successful? Manager McBride stated yes, there are assessments that have been done that prove the success of division and staff.

Director Tullberg added that one of the most difficult things to do is how do you measure prevention. But based on the quantitative data captured it supports the idea that the work has been impactful to the youth. Commissioner Parks stated that some of the young people who age out of the programming come back to work and contribute to the community.

Vice-chair Purcell noticed that there are quite a few postings listed and asked what are the challenges of hiring staff? Manager McBride stated there are four postings that never come down that are for seasonal staff. The work is challenging, and staff must know how to pivot constantly between programming and the number of youths who show up at any given time. A challenge for hiring is getting staff that are experienced with being able to pivot under those conditions.

Commissioner Uloth stated that a lot is being asked of the staff and asked how are the staff doing? Manager McBride stated that Director Tullberg has always promoted support and encouragement to staff to take the time they need to keep themselves healthy.

Youth Liaison Reickard asked if teens are hired? Manager McBride stated that many of the seasonal staff are teens for the Rec on the Go and K-5.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 4.10 RFCA Authorizing Application for HC Youth Activities Grant

7.2 4.11 Fiber Optic Conduit RFCA

7.3 4.12 RFCA Award Zanewood Contract

7.4 C.4 2025 Events Discussion

8. WRITTEN REPORTS

8.1 PROGRAM AND EVENTS UPDATE

8.2 PARK PROJECTS UPDATE

8.3 DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Tullberg highlighted the Fall on the Farm that was attended by over 1700 people.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Commissioner Uloth stated that the south side fence is too low, and dogs are jumping over.

Councilmember McGarvey asked if staff knows what contributed to the large turn out for Fall on the Farm?

Director Tullberg stated that the marketing process was very different in that it was out there on different Facebook groups, and it exploded with clicks and forwards.

10. VERBAL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

10.1 CITY COUNCIL UPDATE – Councilmember McGarvey

Councilmember McGarvey stated that the City Council is going through trying times and some challenges.

10.2 CITY HALL ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE Commissioners Erickson and Matthews
No Report

10.3 COMMUNITY GOALS STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE Commissioner Parks

Commissioner Parks stated the committee will wrap up the survey on October 31st. 600 participants with 200 in person and 400 online. The committee will meet in December to discuss those findings.

10.4 KEY TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT RPAC MEETING

- NOVEMBER - New commissioners have been appointed.

10.5 KEY DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

No Quorum

Adjourned by Chairperson Erickson at 7:40 PM

Submitted respectfully,

Jeanine Machan

Secretary

Attachments:

4.0 6.2 Brooklyn Park Youth Services