

Wednesday, August 20, 2025
Recreation & Parks Advisory Commission
Minutes

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

Commission Members present:

Judy Purcell Chairperson
Joshua Uloth Vice-chair
Emily Arias, At-large
Latrina Caldwell, At-large
Long Dang, East
Kyle Krysinski, Central
Taylor Murray, East
Kellina Quigley, At-large

Youth Liaisons:

Keesha Ramirez

City Council Liaison:

Councilmember Page

Absent:

Doug Crandall, At-large
Miriam Osammor, East
Terry Parks, At-large
Abundance Anako, Youth Commissioner

Brooklyn Park Staff present:

Brad Tullberg, Director of Recreation and Parks
Tim Gladhill, Director of Community Development
Paul Mogush, Director of Planning/Planning Services Community Development
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 August 20th, 2025 agenda by Commissioner Caldwell and second by Commissioner Murray.
Motion unanimously approved.**

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A Motion was made to Approve May 21st, 2025 minutes by Commissioner Uloth and second by Commissioner Caldwell
Motion unanimously approved.**

- 5. ACTION ITEMS**

N/A

- 6. GENERAL INFORMATION - PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 NW AREA PARK PLANNING DISCUSSION

Director Tullberg introduced Paul Mogush, Director of Planning/Planning Services Community Development and Tim Gladhill, Director of Community Development.

Director Mogush provided a PowerPoint presentation (attached 6.1A) on the development plan for the Northwest Area Park. Director Mogush specifically stated the diagrams to be shown were not a finalized park plan.

Questions/Comments

Chairperson Purcell asked how the pedestrians would cross the train tracks? Director Mogush stated that there is a sidewalk that would be used along with train signals. Also, a specific pedestrian crossing would be constructed.

Administrative Assistant Machan asked if a bridge was cost effective? Director Mogush stated that a bridge is a consideration.

Chairperson Purcell asked about the amplified sound issue with the planned homes that will surround the park? Director Mogush stated that he understood the area in the north would be set aside for the amplified sound.

Director Tullberg stated that the design of this park will be much more strategic for the amplified sound.

Vice-Chair Uloth stated that he thinks of the Lowry area where the residents who move in there have the expectation that it will be loud to live there.

Director Gladhill stated that this kind of plan can be a draw for people who want to have an overlook to the parks and music venue.

Director Tullberg stated that there are two different distinctions for the music venue. The first being a public concert and the second being a private gathering with music. The plan will be strategic to accommodate both types.

Vice-Chair Uloth stated that the building façade could be designed to absorb sound rather than reflect it. This would help with the sound bouncing around.

Further discussion centered around what specific things the commissioners liked and comments on what might be considered for improvements.

6.2 MARK AND MELISSA HORTMAN MEMORIAL DISCUSSION

Director Tullberg provided a PowerPoint presentation (attached 6.2A) discussing idea and process for developing a memorial to honor Mark and Speaker Emerita Melissa Hortman who tragically lost their lives on June 14, 2025. Director Tullberg stated that anything that is done will be with consultation with the Hortman children. Director Tullberg stated that any naming or renaming of parks and facilities would first come to the Recreation and Parks Commission for discussion and approval.

Questions and Comments

Vice-Chair Uloth asked if there was a registry of all the memorials that are throughout the city. Director Tullberg replied there is none. Typically, it is more of a place where the family can visit.

Chairperson Purcell suggested the idea of naming the signature park after the Hortmans.

Youth Liaison Ramirez stated that she likes the idea of a plaque and asked if it could be a permanent structure that cannot be moved.

Councilmember Page stated that the city council wanted the family involved in making any decisions.

7. OLD BUSINESS

N/A

8. WRITTEN REPORTS

8.1 PROGRAM AND EVENTS UPDATE

8.2 PARK PROJECTS UPDATE

8.3 DIRECTORS REPORT

8.4 RECENT CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

Director Tullberg highlighted

- the Back to School Bash to be held on 8/21 at the CAC from 5 -8.
- Grand Opening of the Mississippi Gateway Regional Park – September 6th from 9am to 2pm

Manager Hoag highlighted

- Bass Creek tennis courts were reconstructed this past summer.
- City council has approved 50K grant for EAB
- Trail rehabilitation for Trinity Gardens

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

9.1 OPEN FORUM – QUESTION AND ANSWERS

N/A

9.2 RPAC REMOTE PARTICIPATION

Director Tullberg provided background on the policy for City Council and Commission remote participation policy. Director Tullberg reminded the commission that the Grand Room 1, where we currently meet, is not set up for remote meetings. Staff are asking for discussion by Commissioners.

Comments:

Councilmember Page shared what two other commissions are doing. One is a winter January – March remote schedule with two people in person. This is still under discussion. The other was staying with the in-person. Commissioner Murray stated that he feels it is better to be in person but having the option for remote may be helpful for those who might be running late from work.

Chairperson Purcell states that she feels remote meetings are dull and difficult to get conversations going. She prefers in person meetings.

Vice-Chair Uloth stated the commission is advisory and for the most part there is not much that needs to be voted on, nothing is held up if we don't have a quorum and prefer the in person. He feels the hybrid is awkward.

Commissioner Caldwell stated she would prefer flexibility with the hybrid since you never know when something might come up.

Manager Hoag stated that even if you decide to have the flexibility of the 3-day notice and switching to a remote we would need to permanently change the location. We can't guarantee a room would be open at the last minute to do a remote.

Youth Liaison Ramirez stated she would like the idea of doing the meeting remotely but stated that not everyone has the skill with technology to do remote meetings.

Vice-Chair Uloth stated that he likes meeting at the CAC.

Chairperson Purcell agreed that it feels like "our space".

Director Tullberg suggested that the commissioners think about it, and he will have it on the September agenda to finalize the discussion.

10. VERBAL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

10.1 CITY COUNCIL UPDATE – Councilmember Page

Councilmember Page thanked those who attended the joint City Council/Commissioner meeting.

10.2 CAC TASKFORCE UPDATE – Commissioner Parks

Commissioner Murray reported that Federal funding is no longer available. Staff will be asking for State funding. Meeting of the taskforce will be temporarily suspended until the end of 2025.

10.3 KEY TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT RPAC MEETING

- Recreation Programming
- Budget
- Remote meeting discussion

10.4 KEY DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS

- September 6 – Mississippi Gateway Regional Park Grand Opening
- September 22 – Happy Hour at Historic Eidem Farm

11. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Commissioner Uloth to close the meeting, second by Commissioner Caldwell.

Motion unanimously approved.

Adjourned by Chairperson Purcell at 7:48 PM

Submitted respectfully,
Jeanine Machan
Secretary

Attachments:

6.1A NW Area Park Planning RPAC 8.20.2025

