

Wednesday, May 21, 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 6:02 PM**

Commission Members present:

Judy Purcell Chairperson
Joshua Uloth Vice-chair
Doug Crandall, At-large
Long Dang, East
Kyle Krysinski, Central
Terry Parks, At-large
Taylor Murray, East

Absent:

Emily Arias, At-large
Latrina Caldwell, At-large
Miriam Osammor, East
Kellina Quigley, At-large

Youth Liaisons:

Abundance Anako
Keesha Ramirez

Councilmember Page

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**

A Motion was made to move Agenda item General Information – Presentations, 6.1 Destination Sports City in front of Agenda Action Item, 5.1 Annual Deer Hunt, by Commissioner Parks and second by Commissioner Uloth.

Motion unanimously approved.

A Motion was made to approve the revised May 21st, 2025 agenda by Commissioner Uloth and second by Commissioner Crandall

Motion unanimously approved.

- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A Motion was made to Approve April 16th, 2025 minutes by Commissioner Murray and second by Commissioner Uloth

Motion unanimously approved.

- 6. GENERAL INFORMATION - PRESENTATIONS**

6.1 DESTINATION SPORTS CITY

Director Tullberg introduced Jen Durdahl-Johnson, Destination Sales Director (SD), from Minneapolis Northwest Tourism, who presented via PowerPoint (attached) the operation of the Minneapolis Northwest Tourism group, which is a destination management non-profit organization representing Brooklyn Park and Brooklyn Center.

Comments/Questions

Commissioner Uloth asked if in the future would Blaine be building a full-service hotel with restaurant facilities for families that travel here to the Blaine National Sports Center (NSC) for events? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated the NSC has received funds and has approved the building of two hotels, one being a full service.

Commissioner Crandall asked if Brooklyn Park has plans to build any more hotels? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated that she knew of no plans.

Commissioner Crandall asked if it would make it hard for Brooklyn Park to become a destination city if the city does not have lodging available to accommodate? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated that between the two cities there are 12 hotels allowing for enough rooms.

Chairperson Purcell asked how do you count the number of rooms being booked for specific events? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated that the events use a "play and stay" link with the event.

Chairperson Purcell stated that it doesn't seem like Brooklyn Park is close to the airport.

Commissioner Uloth asked what is the long-term evidence of studies done to show benefits of being a destination sports location? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated that she would provide the documentation.

Chairperson Purcell asked if the events that are held in Blaine and Brooklyn Park, are they local Midwest that the attendees drive or are flying in? SD Durdahl-Johnson said that for Blaine it is National and International, for Brooklyn Park it is mostly regional. Director Tullberg stated there are national hockey events held at the CAC.

Chairperson Purcell asked if eating at a restaurant in the hotels you are paying a fee or is it only if staying at the hotel? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated it was only the hotel stay.

Commissioner Uloth asked what facilities SD Durdahl-Johnson would recommend being built? She stated that having a facility with 8 to 10 multi-use courts would be ideal.

Commissioner Uloth would every court have bleachers? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated there is a facility in Chicago that has bleachers. Some facilities offer areas for children play areas.

Commissioner Crandall asked where would this facility be built? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated the undeveloped area around Hwy 610 and 169.

Commissioner Uloth asked about aquatics? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated it is so expensive and the size for competition would need to be Olympic size. The only one in the metro area is at the University of MN.

Chairperson Purcell asked about the 8 to 10 courts, how long it would take to maintain the operating costs?

Director Tullberg stated the benefit shows in other ways such as bringing people into the city and a boost to the local economy versus just the revenue from court rentals. Other factors would also go into determination.

Commissioner Crandall asked if there was competition for hosting? SD Durdahl-Johnson stated events coordinators are always looking for space.

Sales Director Durhall-Johnson provided a pitch for the Gus Maker Tournament.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 ANNUAL DEER HUNT

Director Tullberg provided the background for the proposed annual deer hunt. The PowerPoint presentation is attached. The hunt is conducted by the Metro Bowhunters Resource Base (MBRB).

Comments and Questions

Commissioner Crandall asked who decides where the stands are set up. Director Tullberg stated the stands are predetermined by the MBRB. The city provides maps of the hunt area and the site coordinator with the MBRB will determine where the stands go.

Chairperson Purcell asked about the hunt of Banfill Island? Director Tullberg explained the access is through Izaak Walton League land. A couple of residents do not want the deer hunted on Banfill Island and have put pressure on Izaak Walton to deny the access.

Commissioner Crandall asked if the hunt is bucks only? Director Tullberg stated it is antlerless and bucks.

Chairperson Purcell asked when the hunt will open back up in the Rush Creek Trail / Mississippi Gateway?

Director Tullberg stated that next year (2026) that area hunt will resume.

Commissioner Crandall asked if all the deer are killed that were hit by the cars? Director Tullberg stated that it is assumed but staff does not have that as fact.

Commissioner Uloth asked if a 4th weekend of the hunt can be done? Director Tullberg stated that MBRB has stated that they may not be able to staff a 4th weekend.

Commissioner Uloth asked if starting the hunt in September has ever been considered. Director Tullberg stated that tree cover is a factor for visibility.

Commissioner Crandall asked if the MBRB charges for their services? Director Tullberg stated there is no charge from MBRB. The only expense is an insurance waiver and the shared aerial view count of the deer. Chairperson Purcell stated there is an issue with people feeding the birds with low feeders that draws the deer in.

A Motion was made by commissioner Uloth to recommend to City Council to approve the 2025 Deer Management Program and authorize the agreement with the Metro Bowhunters Resource Base to conduct the 2025 hunt.

Motion unanimously approved.

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 following:

- Tater Daze Parade and Gathering May 31st
- Shared pictures of build at Zanewood
- City Council Town Hall meetings. The date in the report for Central District has been changed to July 17th. Commissioner Uloth asked where in Hennepin County Technical College is the West District, June 17th meeting being held. Director Tullberg stated he would find out and let the group know.
- State Bonding – Director Tullberg said the bonding would likely be for state needs only, not local projects. With a larger local bonding bill likely in 2026.
- Proclamation of Older Americans month
- Grant for the Farmers Market

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Director Tullberg reported back on the glass pickup at Brookdale Dog Park. It was a bigger issue than originally thought. Operation and Maintenance will end up taking off 4 – 6 inches of soil, put down fabric then bring fresh soil back in.

10. VERBAL REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

10.1 CITY COUNCIL UPDATE – Councilmember Page

No report

10.2 CAC TASKFORCE UPDATE – Commissioner Parks

No report

10.3 KEY TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT RPAC MEETING

- MAY 21 - ANNUAL DEER HUNT, DESTINATION SPORTS CITY
- JUNE 18 - YOUTH SERVICES DIVISION, PROGRAMMING FOR BIPOC
- JULY 16 – NO MEETING

10.4 KEY DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Commissioner Krysinski to close the meeting, second by Commissioner Dang.

Motion unanimously approved.

Adjourned by Chairperson Purcell at 7:28 PM

Submitted respectfully,

Jeanine Machan

Secretary

Attachments:

4.1 2025 Deer Hunt Presentation

4.2 Minneapolis Northwest Tourism Sports Presentation