

**ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
February 4, 2020 6:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Heikkila, Hoag, Kim, Newby, O'Brien, Stoner
ABSENT: Carlson, Dahlstrom
STAFF: Brokke, Christensen, Harper

1) INTRODUCTIONS

2) ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 7, 2020 MEETING

Commissioner O'Brien proposed adding the following language after line number 148:

Commissioner O'Brien inquired as to whether the sharpshooters had a sense of how many deer were out there, as some questions had been raised regarding the accuracy of the estimates from our experts with the DNR and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Lonnie Brokke replied that their sense was that there were "a lot more". Commissioner O'Brien stated that it sounds like our estimates from the experts were pretty accurate, and Mr. Brokke replied, "I believe so".

Commissioner Newby moved to approve the minutes as amendment. Commissioner Brown seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4) RECREATION REVIEW – ADULT ATHLETICS AND OUTDOOR FACILITIES

Ryan Harper, Recreation Supervisor with adult athletic and outdoor facilities focus introduced himself to the Parks and Recreation Commission. He provided an overview and update on fields, programs, associations and industry trends.

- Athletic Fields:
 - Softball, Baseball, Soccer, Lacrosse
 - Central Park Victoria, Central Park Lexington, Villa Park
 - Veterans, Langton Lake, Evergreen
 - Rosebrook, Dale St.
 - Users include city recreation programs, affiliated groups, school groups, public and private rentals
- Youth Associations
 - Relationship with City
 - City provides access to fields, promotional opportunities, mailing address, other administrative support
 - Expectations of each Association include:

- Operate independently
 - 501c3 (Non-profit)
 - Financial audit every two years
 - All coaches background checked
 - Offer some recreational level programming
 - Work with all cities within their boundaries
- Adult Athletics:
 - Softball (208 teams - 2,704 players)
 - Men's C and D Leagues
 - Coed C and D Leagues
 - Woodbat League
 - One Pitch League
 - Summer and fall
 - Volleyball (307 teams - 2,763 players)
 - Sand (summer, fall) – Co-Rec/Women's
 - Indoor (fall, winter – Co-Rec/Women's
 - Soccer (31 teams - 372 players)
 - Basketball (40 teams - 400 players)
 - Broomball (8 teams - 64 players)
 - Bocce ball (16 teams - 60 players)
- Adult Athletic Trends:
 - Roseville softball is stable with participants
 - There has been an increase in volleyball participants. Additional evenings of play have been added to accommodate the new participants
 - Pickleball and e-sports are both sports that are continuing to grow locally and nationally

Commissioner Heikkila asked about New Americans and potential sports that we could offer to them. Staff responded that we work with the community, the county and others on new sports such as Tuj Lub or Cricket as there is interest.

Commissioner Brown asked about the cost to utilize the gymnasiums located at Central Park and Brimhall Elementary. Staff relayed that both gymnasiums are considered community gymnasiums where the City helped to fund the construction of them and currently shares in the annual maintenance costs with the school district. Therefore, in the evenings and non-school days they are utilized as community gymnasiums with no direct rental fees to the city.

- Senior Softball
 - 26 Teams, 360 active players
 - Play 2 games/week May-September
 - League is run by an independent board

- Roseville provides field space and maintenance
- Youth Fall Soccer
 - 300 participants
 - Volunteer Coaches
 - Benefits of the program:
 - Recreational Opportunities
 - Job opportunities for Roseville youth
 - Partnering with other communities
- Youth Sport Camps
 - Girls Basketball Camp – Gr. 3-12
 - Boys and Girls Little Hoopers – Gr. K-2
 - Girls Volleyball Camp – Gr. K-12
 - Track and Field Camp – Gr. 3-8
 - Girls Soccer Future Camp – Gr. 6-8
 - Girls Soccer Mini Camp – Gr. 9-12
 - Football Camp – Gr. 1-8
 - HS Football Camp – Gr. 9-12
 - Boys Basketball Camp – Gr. 3-12

Commissioner O’Brien commented that she was impressed with all of the programs that are offered by the Parks and Recreation Department and that it is not only good for our citizens, but it is also what keeps Roseville such an attractive city.

5) **FORESTRY TASK FORCE DISCUSSION**

Vice-Chair Hoag relayed that the first meeting of the Forestry Task Force was on January 22, 2020. The meeting was used to review City Code #706 (Urban Forest Management). No further meetings have been scheduled.

Fellow members of the Task Force raised concerns about the Parks and Recreation Commission potentially not doing enough as the Tree Board. Vice-Chair Hoag said that he reiterated to the group that for the 2 plus years he has been on the Parks and Recreation Commission, trees have been discussed in some way at each commission meeting.

Staff noted that an additional role of the Tree Board would be to remedy any differences of opinion between a citizen and staff, should it arise.

The commission generally discussed who owns the responsibilities of City Code #706.

Chair Baggenstoss inquired about the desired outcome of the Task Force. Vice-Chair Hoag responded that he believes that there may be members of other commissions who don’t believe the

city is doing enough for forestry. The Task Force may provide a set of recommendations to the City Council after the anticipated three Task Force meetings.

The Commission further discussed the scope of #706 and the current Task Force responsibilities.

Commissioner Stoner commented that it might be helpful for Vice-Chair Hoag to take back to the Task Force that the Commission was surprised by the Tree Board authority.

Staff responded that the Tree Preservation Ordinance was developed more recently and has given authority and responsibility to the Community Development Department. They have the resources and expertise to review and provide recommendations to staff, Planning Commission and the City Council. The Tree Preservation Ordinance is a separate area from the Urban Forest Management Ordinance.

The Commission discussed that the public and private ordinances don't feel coordinated. Specifically where the Parks and Recreation Commission does not have input on trees in new developments on private land and whether these policies are actually working.

Staff commented that they would be reluctant to have private development projects come to the Parks and Recreation Commission as this is handled by another city commission (Planning Commission) and may overlap.

Vice-Chair Hoag noted that trees should not be a hindrance to development.

Staff suggested to potentially have the chair of the Task Force come to the Parks and Recreation Commission to clarify the purpose of the Task Force.

Commissioner Stoner indicated that he would like to be sure that someone who reviews tree preservation plans is interested in forestry and not only development.

Commissioner Newby questioned who would have overseen the tree review for the development at Lexington and Co. Rd. C. Staff responded that it would have been the Community Development Department, the Planning Commission, and the City Council.

Commissioner Arneson commented that potentially the Tree Board name is not fully explained and possibly that it should be the "Public and Parkland Tree Board".

6) **CONSIDER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE FRIENDS OF ROSEVILLE PARKS (FOR PARKS) AND THE ROSEVILLE CENTRAL PARK FOUNDATION**

Staff explained that two longstanding Roseville community organizations have approached the city to make significant donations.

The first donation is from the Friends of Roseville Parks (FOR Parks) who has been approached by a very generous anonymous contributor interested in making a \$500,000 contribution to add inclusive and senior/adult/all play in Central Park. Part of the project would include replacing the wood fiber surface in the existing playgrounds to a poured-in-place or turf surface for enhanced accessibility. The project would also include exercise equipment pods that would be added along the trails around the park.

Commissioner Newby asked how the fitness equipment is secured. Staff responded that they are put on a concrete slab and secured to the slab. The equipment is weatherproof and tamperproof.

The Commission discussed general accessibility of playgrounds in the city.

Chair Baggenstoss asked if there is a need for the outdoor fitness equipment. Staff responded that there has been expressed interest for this type of equipment and that it had been discussed as part of the Master Plan.

Youth Commissioner Kim commented that youth may be more inclined to use the exercise equipment if they are less static and there are more moving parts.

Commissioner Brown questioned the timing of taking this recommendation to the City Council. Staff responded that that they would bring it to the City Council on Monday, February 10, 2020.

The second donation is a lighting project at the Muriel Sahlin Arboretum that has been proposed by the Roseville Central Park Foundation. The project would address community interests and concerns specifically by adding lighting to the parking lot and trails over a three year period. This project will be made possible by a \$150,000 donation by the Roseville Central Park Foundation.

Staff explained that by accepting these donations the city will be accepting these projects into its ongoing maintenance and operations schedules and will need to be considered in future Capital Improvement Plans.

Staff also explained that much more planning, community involvement and design work is yet to be done on both projects.

Staff shared that the timing of the FOR Parks project is anticipated to include planning in 2020 with implementation in 2021. The Roseville Central Park Foundation project is anticipated to be completed over three phases (years) with the first phase being the parking lot lights in 2020.

Commission Recommendation:

Commissioner Newby moved to recommend to the City Council to accept the general donations from the Friends of Roseville Parks (FOR Parks) and the Roseville Central Park Foundation as presented. Vice-Chair Hoag seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7) STAFF REPORT

a. NEW OR RELEVANT COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATES

- The Guidant John Rose Minnesota OVAL is included in the Governor’s bonding bill.
- The city has been awarded a grant for tree planting in the amount of \$30,000. This will allow for approximately 120 planted trees on public lands.
- Staff does intend to have additional discussions with the City Council on the Accelerated Emerald Ash Borer program. Currently, they are waiting on year end results of fund balances.
- The Proposal Review Committee for the Cedarholm Community Building and Golf Course Grill/Kitchen Service has recommended moving forward with requesting further information from Vendor A. They have suggested that Vendor B no longer be considered.
- The Deer Reduction Program has reduced the herd in the City of Roseville by 38. Specifically, 23 have been removed south of Highway 36 and 15 have been removed north of Highway 36.

No deer have been removed at Ladyslipper Park. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been unable to have any safe situations to remove, therefore baiting at this site will be discontinued. Research may need to be done to understand better reduction options on private property in this area.

Continued reduction efforts will be at Owasso Hills Park in the northeast corner of the city which may help the Ladyslipper Park area as well.

- A 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting calendar was provided in the February packet with updated potential joint City Council meeting dates.
- Natural Resource Event at Materion Park, February 15, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Roseville resident, Jana King, has provided seeds from her personal inventory that will be distributed during this event. Thanks to Ms. King for her generosity and expertise.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission will have one opening. Application deadline: Feb. 19, Applicants will be interviewed by City Council on Feb. 24. All are encouraged to apply!

8) OTHER

Staff updated that they took Youth Commissioner Kim’s advice to visit local High Schools during lunch to promote summer job openings.

Commissioner Stoner asked when the Spring/Summer Parks and Recreation brochure will be out. Staff commented that it would be mailed to homes the first week in March. The Spring/Summer program registration “go-live” date will be March 10, 2020.

Commissioner O’Brien suggested adding the Parks and Recreation Commission Goals to the March Agenda. Also, Commissioner O’Brien relayed that the Natural Resource Volunteer Leaders met as a group to discuss how the program should look and its processes. The Natural Resource Volunteer Leaders will meet with Jim Taylor and Rachel Boggs on February 6. Nancy will be present at this meeting.

Staff reminded the Commission that the March agenda will include the election of Commission Chair and Vice-Chair.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danielle Christensen, Department Assistant