

ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
January 7, 2020 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Carlson, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag, Kim, Newby, O'Brien, Stoner

ABSENT:

STAFF: Brokke, Christensen, Robinette

1) INTRODUCTIONS TO INCLUDE YOUTH APPLICANT

The Commission congratulated Youth Commissioner Andrew Kim on his appointment to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

2) ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 3, 2019 MEETING

Vice-Chair Hoag moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Stoner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4) RECREATION REVIEW – YOUTH PROGRAM FOCUS

Gina Robinette, Recreation Supervisor with a youth program focus introduced herself to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Robinette met with the group approximately one year ago. She is back to provide an update on her programs and to expand upon the information she previously provided.

- Adult Wellness:
 - Variety of options and levels are provided
 - Sports, trips, safe driving, dance, wellness activities, etc.
- Youth Arts, Theatre and Enrichment:
 - Year-round and summer camp options
 - Art, theatre, STEM, gymnastics, self-defense, parent-child music classes, etc.
- Youth Sports:
 - In-house introductory options
 - Multiple age ranges, dates and times available
 - Soccer, basketball, kickball, tennis, golf, track, etc.
- Summer 2020 Youth Programs:
 - Friday Field Trips (ages 6 – 14)
 - Garden Explorers
 - Passport to Play (half day mornings Monday – Thursday for ages 5 – 10)
 - Leaders in Training (LIT)
 - Play Pals (Tuesday or Thursday for ages 3 – 6)
 - Playground Games Galore (Half day afternoons for ages 7 – 12)

- Specialty Camps
- Summer Spectacular (Full day camp Monday – Thursday for ages 5 – 12)
- Rec Connect:
 - A youth outreach program hosted at Unity Park providing free recreation experiences to youth in southeast Roseville. Rec Connect meets during the summertime on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon's from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Rec Connect activities include group games, crafts, science experiments, snacks, special guests and an end of the summer field trip. In 2019, Rec Connect averaged 20 participants/day.
 - Rec Connects initiatives include:
 - Establishing connections/relationships between established community services and our newer community members
 - Introducing youth to recreation experiences that involve sports, arts, leadership and teamwork
 - Bringing healthy activities and provide recreation opportunities to a community of Roseville youth who may have financial and transportation constraints
- Contracted Programs:
 - Staff work with contractors to offer specialized sports and programs to provide greater recreation options and variety
 - RAHS Coaches Camps – Basketball, football, soccer, track & field and volleyball
 - Revolutionary Sports – Ninja Warrior, quidditch, flag football, volleyball and non-contact lacrosse
 - Abrakadoodle – Summer art camps
 - Ensemble Music – Parent-Child Music Classes
 - Kidcreate Studio – Art camps
 - Rosetown Playhouse – Summer theatre camps and teen improv
 - Tech-Tac-Toe – Computer science camps
- Special Events:
 - Citywide Garage Sale (June 4 – 6)
 - Discover Your Parks (June 24 – August 12)
 - Party in the Park (July 4)
 - Puppet Wagon (June 23 – August 20)
 - Roll in Movies
 - Rosefest
 - Sumer Entertainment
- Summer Seasonal Staff:
 - Staff could not provide all of the activities and special events without the summer seasonal staff
 - May – September
 - One week training in June
 - Opportunity to build a variety of job and skill sets

- Approximately 42 seasonal staff each summer
- Now hiring for summer 2020 seasonal staff

Commissioner Newby asked what qualifications are needed for a coordinator versus other summer staff. Staff responded that the coordinator position is typically someone who has schooling in child development, is 18 years of age and is comfortable leading staff and driving city vehicles.

Goals that Robinette has set for 2020 are to:

- Evaluate Seasonal Staffing
 - Competitive seasonal staff wages
 - Variety of skill set opportunities
 - Staff training/meetings
 - Evaluations
 - Hiring opportunities and practices
- Expand Rec Connect
 - June 23 – August 13 (added week)
 - Grow daily participation
- Evaluate Youth Sports offerings
 - Create a more cohesive schedule for year round offerings
 - Evaluate trends and where we match up with them
 - Adjust scheduling for summer youth sports to better match the needs and requests of the community

The Commission discussed the changing demographics in the city and how that could change recreation offerings.

Vice-Chair Hoag mentioned that he was excited to see the puppet wagon is still a community offering as he remembers it as a child growing up in Roseville.

Youth Commissioner Kim asked about the type of marketing that is used to notify students of the seasonal summer job openings. Staff responded that they work with the district to send out an e-mail as well as attend the job fair. Kim suggested that it also might be a good idea to set up a table during lunch time.

The Commission discussed social media and its use in advertising programs/events and evaluating potential needs.

Chair Baggenstoss gave a “shout out” to the seasonal staff and the Rec Connect Program.

Staff also noted that other community partners, including the library and Rosetown Playhouse were also out at Unity Park in 2019 as part of the ongoing community outreach in southeast Roseville.

5) **FORESTRY TASK FORCE DISCUSSION**

Vice-Chair Hoag relayed that the first meeting of the Forestry Task Force will be January 22, 2020 to discuss the current city ordinance. He also mentioned that if anyone wanted to read the ordinance and provide e-mail feedback for himself and Commissioner Dahlstrom to address at the meetings they would pass it on.

Commissioner Stoner asked what the goal of the Tree Preservation Ordinance is in preserving existing tree cover and is it an effective policy? Stoner also noted that he had questions regarding what he felt was an excessive tree removal at the new Senior Living Community at Lexington and County Rd. C and wondered how that was justified under the Tree Preservation Ordinance.

Staff noted that any questions can be sent to them and they will compile it and send it to Dahlstrom and Hoag. Commissioner O'Brien reminded the Commission to never "reply all" on an e-mail as it could potentially violate open meeting laws.

6) **STAFF REPORT**

a. **NEW OR RELEVANT COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATES**

- A meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2020 with vendors who submitted proposals for the Cedarholm Community Building/Golf Course Grill RFP for questions and clarification.
- The 2019/2020 Deer Reduction Program is still ongoing. To date the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has taken 32 deer (23 from south of Highway 36 and 9 from north of Highway 36). The two reduction dates were December 7 and 19. Currently, baiting has begun at Ladyslipper Park. Sites south of Highway 36 have been suspended. The flyover for population analysis by Ramsey County will be completed within the next few weeks, as weather allows. Meat from the deer is donated to families in need. The city has requested that the meat be donated to families in Roseville who are in need first. 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".
- Staff plans to ask the City Council to accept two large donations:
 - A substantial donation from FOR Parks for an all-inclusive play structure. It is anticipated that this would be a 2021 project with 2020 used for planning.
 - A substantial donation from the Central Park Foundation for lighting at the Central Park Arboretum. This is anticipated to be a multi-year project.

- Storage at Fairview Community Center is going away with the removal of the old building and no room for storage was planned with the new building. Currently, 1,200 feet is leased from the School District for storage of 6 different association's equipment. Staff is working with the associations to find a solution. Commissioner Dahlstrom relayed that he is on the Softball Board and they are very worried about the storage issue.

7) **OTHER**

The January-April 2020 recreation brochure has been mailed out.

Commissioner Dahlstrom stated that he will not be at the Feb. 4 Commission meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danielle Christensen, Department Assistant