

Roseville Parks and Recreation
Commission Meeting
Tuesday August 5, 2014
8:00 P.M. (NOTE: Later Start Time Due to Night to Unite)
Roseville City Hall
2660 Civic Center Drive

AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Public Comment Invited
3. Approval of Minutes of June 3, 2014
4. Follow up to the Joint Meeting with the City Council
5. Park and Recreation Renewal Program Status
6. Consider Tour in September
7. Staff Report
8. Other
9. Adjournment

Roseville Parks and Recreation
"Building Community through People, Parks and Programs"
www.ci.roseville.mn.us

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MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission
From: Lonnie Brokke
Date: July 24, 2014
Re: Notes for Commission Meeting on **Tuesday, August 5, 2014**

1. Introductions

Commissioners and staff will be introduced.

2. Public Comment Invited

Public participation and public comment is encouraged.

3. Approval of Minutes of the June 3, 2014 Meeting

Enclosed is a copy of the minutes of June 3, 2014. Please be prepared to approve or amend.

Requested Commission Action: Approve/amend meeting minutes of June 3, 2014.

4. Follow up to the Joint Meeting with the City Council

Included in your packet are the minutes related to your joint meeting with the City Council that occurred on June 9, 2014. Please review the minutes and be prepared to discuss future direction.

Requested Commission Action: Review and discuss results of joint meeting.

5. Park and Recreation Renewal Program Status

Included in your packet is an update article that will be included in the Fall Brochure.

Any additional progress on the Renewal Program will be reported at the meeting. Comments, questions and suggestions from the Commission are welcome and encouraged.

Requested Commission Action: Discuss progress.

6. Consider Tour in September

Your September meeting has traditionally been a tour of parks and facilities. It could be on either your regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 2nd or a Saturday morning. If you wish to take a tour and stay with the Tuesday evening, sunset is around 7:45 p.m. so you could start a bit earlier to avoid darkness. If you prefer a Saturday, September 6th or 13th from around 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. could work. We would plan to tour Renewal Program construction sites.

Please be prepared to consider calendars and let staff know of any sites you particularly would like to visit - drive by or walk. It would again be suggested to use the Roseville van.

Requested Commission Action: Finalize decision about September tour and/or meeting.

7. Staff Report

8. Other

9. Adjournment

**ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR JUNE 3, 2014
ROSEVILLE CITY HALL ~ 6:30pm**

PRESENT: Azer, Diedrick, Doneen, Gelbach, D. Holt, M. Holt, Newby
ABSENT: Boehm, Stoner, and Wall notified staff about being unable to attend
STAFF: Anfang, Brokke

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment. Agenda adjusted to accommodate Commissioner Wall who needed to leave meeting early.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 6, 2014 MEETING

Commission Recommendation:

Minutes for the May 6, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

4. ELECTION OF CHAIR and VICE CHAIR

Commission Recommendation:

Motion by Diedrick, second by Azer to nominate David Holt to the position of Parks and Recreation Commission Chair. D. Holt indicated his willingness to continue but wanted the Commission to have a discussion including consideration of Commissioner Terms when nominating. Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Doneen, second by Gelbach to nominate Lee Diedrick to the position of Parks and Recreation Commission Vice Chair. Diedrick indicated her willingness to serve as Vice Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

5. PREPARE for JOINT CITY COUNCIL/COMMISSION MEETING

In an effort to prepare for the Joint Meeting with the City Council, the Commission spent time reviewing goals, accomplishments and making assignments to Commission members on certain topics to lead at the meeting. Those assignments are as follows:

- Diedrick & M. Holt will speak to the council on the Volunteer Coordinator position and enhanced volunteer participation
- Doneen will cover the Natural Resource, Forestry and Trails area as well as the cooperative work completed by members of the Parks & Recreation Commission and the PWET Commission.
- Gelbach will update the Council on the Commission's communication efforts
- D. Holt will share information on the Renewal Program
- Newby will handle the Community Center topic
- D. Holt will provide a status update on the Local Option Sales Tax
- Wall will review latest Park Board Materials and look for direction from the Council

Commission member Azer indicated that she was unable to attend the joint meeting due to a work conflict.

Commission agreed to gather at 6pm on Monday, June 9 prior to the meeting to be present and prepared for when the item comes up on the City Council agenda.

53 **6. PARKS AND RECREATION RENEWAL PROGRAM STATUS**

54 Brokke updated the commission on Renewal Package A the buildings and shelters; work has begun in
55 Lexington Park. Fencing has also gone up in Villa Park and Sandcastle Park. Staff is working to
56 finalize the remaining package contracts.
57

58 **7. STAFF REPORT**

59 Brokke reported;

- 60 • The Commission for Accredited Parks and Recreation Agency (CAPRA) visitation team was in
61 town May 20-22. We are proud to report that Roseville achieved 100% of the 144 standards.
 - 62 ○ Thanks to Assistant Director Anfang for leading this process with high achievement and
 - 63 to the entire staff for their part in the success.
 - 64 ○ Commission members spoke about the importance of communicating the Accreditation
 - 65 accomplishments.
 - 66 ○ Lonnie explained the benefits and significance of the Accreditation process.
- 67 • There are two Community Build Playground projects coming up; we are still looking for
- 68 volunteers at Howard Johnson Park from noon – 4pm this Saturday, June 7.
- 69 • There has been a preliminary inquiry into a cell tower at Evergreen Park. ATT has suggested
- 70 using the hockey rink light poles. This is a very early inquiry and staff is looking for the
- 71 Commission's input. Commission members agreed that it would be worth getting more
- 72 information. We will be bringing back more information as it is received.
73

74 **8. OTHER**

- 75 • M. Holt asked about how FORParks might go about starting the discussion on changing the City
76 Ordinance relating to alcohol vendors at the Skating Center to allow for more vending
77 opportunities at the upcoming FORParks Uncorked event.
 - 78 ○ Brokke explained how the ordinance has changed/evolved over time. The adjacent city
 - 79 factor has come to be to aid in controlling and limiting the alcohol providers allowing
 - 80 for a consistency in service and understanding of operations.
 - 81 ○ Commissioners followed up with a discussion on considerations for the current
 - 82 ordinance being changed.
83

84 Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm
85

86 Respectfully Submitted,
87 Jill Anfang, Assistant Director
88
89

Mayor Roe noted that this would leave the CU language requirement intact at this time; and requested staff to return with additional information and potential updating of Tables of Use at a later date.

Roll Call

Ayes: McGehee; Willmus; Laliberte; Etten; and Roe.

Nays: None.

Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 6:45 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 6:48 p.m.

10. Presentations

b. Parks and Recreation Commission Joint Meeting with the City Council

Mayor Roe welcomed commissioners and recognized Parks & Recreation Commission Chair Dave Holt. Commissioners in attendance included: Chair Holt, Commissioners Lee Diedrick, Randall Doneen, Jerry Stoner, Mary Holt, Nolan Wall, Philip Gelbach and Terrance Newby.

Various attachments were provided as part of the background and discussion items, including: Attachment A (Goals 2013-2015); Attachment B (City Attorney Opinion dated 3/14/14 - Park Board Legislation); Attachment C (Research and analysis of a Park Board dated 5/7/13); Attachment D (SWOT analysis report on Park Board dated 5/6/14); and Attachment E (Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes dated 5/6/14).

Chair Holt advised that each commissioner would be speaking on various joint discussion topics as listed in the RCA.

Volunteer Coordinator/Enhanced Volunteer Participation

Commissioners Lee Diedrick and Mary Holt thanked the City Council for hiring Volunteer Coordinator, opining that it was great timing as the Parks Renewal Program was initiated, anticipating great results from coordinating volunteer efforts.

Collaboration with Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission (PWETC)

Commissioner Doneen reported on the meeting of a subgroup of P & R and PWETC commissions to discuss pathway extensions, and the work done by the PWETC to build on the original 2008 Pathway Master Plan, along with those needs identified as part of the park constellations during the Parks Master Plan process.

Commissioner Doneen noted that it was interesting to see the difference in ranking trail and pathway priorities based on two different sets of criteria; with both groups in support of trails on County Road B2 and the trail (shoulder) connection west of Cleveland Avenue along County Road B.

Commissioner Doneen opined that overall it was a good collaborative effort and he appreciated working with the PWETC.

Communication Efforts

Commissioner Gelbach noted that he had met with Communications Manager Garry Bowman and Assistant Parks Director Jill Anfang, as well as attending a meeting of the Community Engagement Commission and discussions with Commissioner Gary Grefenberg of that group, and would continue to follow their meeting minutes. Commissioner Gelbach stressed the importance of communication efforts in including everyone in what was being done, and looked forward to a good relationship with these parties.

Commissioner Gelbach advised that he would like the Parks & Recreation Commissioners to meet more often with the City Council, similar to a schedule like the Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA), on a quarterly basis if possible to enhance that communication and provide more timely reports.

Chair Holt concurred, noting it went beyond communications, but would keep the City Council in the loop and up-to-date, as well as keeping the Commission on task as activities begin to move forward at a fast pace, allowing for course corrections as needed.

Parks and Recreation Renewal Program

With recent package approval by the City Council, Commissioner Stoner asked that they continue to provide feedback (e.g. wireless communications and access considerations) to tell the Commission their areas of interest.

Commissioner Stoner thanked the City Council for their attendance and support at the recent Parks Renewal Program Kick-off Event; and asked that they continue to alert the Commission to any questions and/or comments.

Natural Resources Program including Forestry

Commissioner Doneen noted the advantages of tying together the Master Plan volunteer projects, volunteer coordinator, and natural resource programs of the community. As an example, Commissioner Doneen addressed the recent Buckthorn removal project at Reservoir Woods, and removal of brush for shipping. While a small project and not well-advertised with the Commission for some reason failing on every communication resource available to them, Commissioner Doneen noted that over twenty volunteers still showed up to help. Commissioner Doneen opined that this was indicative of the importance the community placed on their natural resources in area parks and Master plan efforts to-date.

Commissioner Doneen noted that this created a concern he'd heard from the community of the need for management of those natural resources in the City environment, which they had not found active or adequate to-date; and therefore the inclusion in the Parks Renewal Program package of a specific program and the need for their restoration.

Commissioner Doneen advised that he'd long advocated that natural resource needs be funded annually to avoid big time expenses or their further degradation, through effective capitalization.

Commissioner Doneen asked that the City Council give that serious consideration moving forward, opining that some of the City's most valuable assets are its trees and forest, specifically the current dangers to Ash Trees, and the need to remove diseased trees, but also replace them not just for aesthetics, but also for their benefits for energy conservation, soils and water quality. Commissioner Doneen suggested that proactive planning be done and monies set aside annually as originally intended. Commissioner Doneen respectfully asked that the City Council include natural resources in their long-term capital improvement program (CIP).

Commissioner Doneen noted that staff had done a good job of leveraging the Department of Agriculture for funding, but in the Commission's dual capacity as the City Tree Board, they recommended moving forward from the basic Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) plan; and ramp up and plant trees in advance of any infestation. Commissioner Doneen suggested that the City move from its limited forestry efforts with a one part-time forestry employee, and opined that it would prove a wise investment to increase the position to serve as a general resource management person and provide expertise with tree preservation as the City redevelops parcels with existing mature trees. As the Tree Board, Commissioner Doneen stated that they would be more than willing to engage with the Planning Commission in cross-efforts and endeavors for a reasonable tree preservation plan.

Councilmember Willmus asked Commissioner Doneen if, in his involvement with the Natural Resources and Trail System (NRATS) portion of the Renewal Program if he saw continued work with the PWETC on some issues (e.g. water quality and tree preservation), recognizing that there were commissioners on the PWETC that were passionate about those topics as well.

Commissioner Doneen recognized that potential, but having worked with that group already, opined that his best sense was that a specific charge should be provided rather than an ongoing relationship, whether with the Parks & Recreation, PWETC, and/or Planning Commission, and at the discretion of the City Council for a specific task and recommendation.

Chair Holt concurred, noting that the NRATS was looking for a more proactive approach and specific direction from the City Council to develop action steps.

Community Center

Commissioner Terrance (Terry) Newby noted that there had been considerable discussion in the past, including public surveys in 2011 and 2014, all identifying strong public support for the idea of a community center.

Commissioner Newby opined that the next step for the Commission was guidance from the City Council as to whether they were charged with moving forward to pursue this further, or if it should remain on the back burner as not being a top priority. Given the expanse of the issue and amount of time it could consume, Commissioner Newby sought direction in relationship to the other priorities of the Commission at this time.

Over time, Councilmember Willmus noted that the City Council was aware of the interest and survey data providing a fairly consistent message from the community for a community center. Councilmember Willmus advised that he'd be interested in learning more about how the City would

propose to close the operational funding gap. Even with the City of Shoreview and Maplewood community centers, and their business models, Councilmember Willmus noted the annual financial gap (e.g. \$300,000 for Shoreview Community Center) and how those gaps could be addressed if the project were to move forward; or how to offset that gap to keep the facility going.

Councilmember McGehee noted that, as long as she'd been a resident, this had been an issue; and that was the reason for her being outspoken with the Parks Renewal Program, that the buildings should have been funneled into a community center for one building that was available and convenient for all residents. However, since that wasn't done, Councilmember McGehee noted that now instead of one area, there were six separate buildings to support, operate and maintain, even though she didn't hear that preference expressed by taxpayers and survey data. Councilmember McGehee opined that she couldn't see much hunger from the taxpayers for more bonding or increased taxes following the most recent bonding effort.

Having talked to the City of Shoreview about their apparent annual funding gap, Councilmember McGehee advised that she understood that it was a deliberate attempt to keep their membership at a price point so all residents could belong, and to continue to leave it as is and provide public support to promote those efforts. Councilmember McGehee opined that this discussion should have occurred earlier to respond to the community's wants, needs and expectations for a community center versus the buildings being constructed. While not having heard from the community at large, Councilmember McGehee opined that the 2014 survey results would indicate to her that the natural resource component was the second highest, as in the 2011 survey as well; and many things now being financed are related to maintenance issues that have been sorely neglected to-date; and reiterated her previous concerns that a maintenance plan was needed going forward.

Councilmember Laliberte recognized that this had been talked about for a long time; but noted that everyone envisioned a community center differently as to what it offered. While survey respondents indicate they want a community center, Councilmember Laliberte asked what they actually wanted, since some of those amenities may already be available in the community but not used sufficiently. In talking to a representative from the City of New Brighton recently, Councilmember Laliberte noted that they were looking at major improvements and investments to their community center, as they were finding that they lacked amenities, causing the community to go to LA Fitness, and other nicer, newer facilities. Councilmember Laliberte suggested that Roseville already had four community center-type buildings that are underutilized, and when someone wants a community, there was a need to determine what features they were seeking. Councilmember Laliberte stated that she needed a clearer picture of that, and such information would prove helpful to her future decision-making about a community center.

Councilmember Etten noted that discussion on how to fund a community center came up a few years ago, with the actual construction discussed through a local sales tax option, which has since filtered away. Councilmember Etten stated that he looked at long-term costs differently than the actual construction of a community center; with additional information needed on how to put the pieces together. As part of the Master Planning process, Councilmember Etten noted that some components were looked at, but there was no formal survey about what pieces were most valued by residents (e.g. indoor walking track); and while some of those amenities may already be in place in other facilities, recognized that some may also have certain limitations (e.g. walking track at the OVAL). Councilmember Etten opined that the important thing was to nurture all ages in the community in different ways and bring them together in a common space.

Mayor Roe echoed comments of his fellow Councilmembers, noting the difference in the upfront cost for construction and ongoing operating cost, while also understanding the high potential for a subsidy for long-term maintenance and upkeep and understanding overall benefits to the community. Regarding the City's financial picture, Mayor Roe noted that the community had just begun paying for the Park Renewal Program bonds; however, conversely they were 3-4 years from paying off the City Hall/Public Works Building improvement bonds, which may create a potential fund to cover other infrastructure needs. As a way to address local sales taxes, Mayor Roe noted that the legislature looked at regional benefits in providing tax levy support; and suggested that shifting the OVAL to that regional support as a regional facility may open up more funding to operate that and shift available funding to a community center.

Mayor Roe suggested that the Commission take those things brought forward tonight by individual Councilmembers, with the charge for them to come up with more concrete answers to look at more seriously in an effort to understand the financial impacts to residents and businesses in the community.

Councilmember Laliberte suggested having discussions with communities surrounding Roseville that had community centers and/or private enterprises providing the preferred amenities, and determine

how to partner with them, or avoid competing with those private entities. Councilmember Laliberte again opined that the past needs of the community may be met with the new park buildings under construction.

In speaking for senior citizens in the community, Councilmember McGehee opined that they didn't go to the private entities, but more often went to the community centers in Maplewood or Shoreview that were more geared to the older community with classes specific to their comfort level, further opining that those needs were not being met in the commercial environment.

Chair Holt, in recognizing the public engagement discussions through the Master Plan process, admitted that it wasn't easy to define what actual amenities were desired, since there was a multitude of interests. In addressing costs, Chair Holt advised that the Commission, as part of the Park Renewal Program, had looked at them quite extensively, and the cost of a community center as envisioned was more than the entire bonding program. Not to discount the desire and/or need for a community center, Chair Holt realistically advised that there was no funding available for one, and providing a community center was not as easy as we'd like it to be, with so many generations in the community needing to be satisfied.

Given the extensive work required, Chair Holt asked that the City Council provide direction or a charge if they wanted the Commission to further study this and return with that information. Regarding the maintenance plan comments by Councilmember McGehee, Chair Holt advised that this was an important piece of the Renewal Program to maintain what was being constructed. Chair Holt advised that the Commission had no intention of not providing for such a maintenance plan, which he hoped the City Council would support, to address planning and capitalization efforts to avoid what led to the degradation of existing facilities in the first place by lack of support. Chair Holt advised that those numbers were being developed and would be put together as part of an upcoming annual and long-term CIP.

Local Option Sales Tax

Chair Holt noted that this had been brought to the Commission in the past as a goal and as a potential funding for a community center. Chair Holt advised that the Commission was again seeking guidance from the City Council as to whether pursue the legislative process, which was also time-consuming. If the City Council wanted the Commission to look at it further this year, Chair Holt asked that they provide specific direction to the Commission as a request for more information.

Park Board Consideration

Chair Holt noted that the City Council had tasked the Commission several years ago to review and consider a Park Board versus a Commission, which had taken two years to accomplish (Attachment C - research and analysis of a Park Board dated May 7, 2013).

Commissioner Wall addressed this issue, including the necessary steps to establish a Park Board and the powers governing such a board under MN Statute, as detailed in the March 14, 2014 City Attorney opinion (Attachment B). Commissioner Nolan further referenced their discussion (Attachment D entitled, "Discussion regarding the legislative action to change from a commission to a board," dated May 6, 2014); and the subsequent motion passed unanimously that same date by seven Commission members in attendance.

Commissioner Nolan noted that this would be a significant and involved process; and asked for the City Council's consideration, or any request for additional information.

Councilmember Laliberte thanked the Commission for their work to-date, and information she'd received from watching their meetings and the information provided by the Commission, recognizing that it was well thought out. With all that being said, Councilmember Laliberte stated that she was still hesitant about creating a Park Board due to the creation of a separate taxing authority and further removed one step from residents for non-elected officials to make decisions. Councilmember Laliberte noted that she understood the rationale based on past history of why such a board was desired, but remained hesitant. Councilmember Laliberte stated that she'd prefer to meet more often with the Commission as suggested to stay on top of things of concern to them as a starting point if it was the desire of the City Council rather than establishing Park Board. Councilmember Laliberte opined if by meeting more often, especially with initiation of the Park Renewal Program projects, it would avoid the reason why a \$19 million Park Renewal Project was necessary to address things done being done when they should have been done.

Councilmember McGehee agreed with Councilmember Laliberte's comments for meeting more often, stating that she would not favor a Park Board at this time for many of those same reasons, for the need for the City Council to retain that direct relationship with residents and avoid the autonomy of a Board and its own taxing authority. Councilmember McGehee opined that parks are a resource for

the entire community, and when the Master Plan process was underway, stated that she personally supported a referendum and opined that the City failed its residents in not pursuing a referendum. Even though 3,000 people participated in the Master Plan process, Councilmember McGehee noted that this was less than 10% of the overall Roseville population; with the 2014 community survey indicating that 70% of the respondents didn't know about the Park Renewal Program, even though there were residents and the reason for them not using the parks might mean that their needs are not being met even though a large expenditure of public money had been made in the park system.

Councilmember McGehee stated that she felt strongly that more public airing of the Renewal Program was needed to determine what the real issues were, but what was being done now and the subsequent maintenance needed for those buildings, were not addressed or supported in either the 2011 or 2014 community surveys. Councilmember McGehee stated that she would like to meet more often and have more detail on the projects underway to address the different points of view of individual Councilmembers, and to have a give and take discussion about projects and ongoing maintenance, allowing the Commission and City Council to keep track of resident needs and the use of public funds to meet those needs.

After having participated for years in the public airing of issues in his former role on the Parks & Recreation Commission, Councilmember Etten opined that nothing in Roseville's history had been as well-vetted as this Park Renewal Program process. Councilmember Etten opined that to state that it hadn't gone through a public process was not correct. Councilmember Etten admitted that he had been caught off guard by community survey responses about their perceived lack of knowledge about the Renewal Program, but while not sure what had led to that, suggested that it may have been the label of the program from "Park Master Plan" to "Park Renewal Program." Given the number of meetings held in community sectors, and additional educational pieces and meetings around the program, Councilmember Etten expressed confidence that the process had been thorough and informative community-wide.

Specific to the creation of a Park Board, and the many discussions to-date, as well as requirements under the Optional Plan B City Government of Roseville, Councilmember Etten recognized that there would be a rigorous process to move such an effort forward. Councilmember Etten suggested the potential for partnering with a neighboring city (e.g. Falcon Heights and/or Lauderdale) to create a regional board, or partnership of the City and School District for joint facilities, but across levels of government and jurisdictions; giving consideration to the use of local sales taxes for that regional effort. Councilmember Etten opined that this would serve in a grander way to bring lots of pieces together to make it happen, and get a Park Board operational to work jointly with joint funding available.

Councilmember Willmus concurred with the comments of Councilmember Etten, noting that the Park Board concept originated during the Park & Recreation Master Plan process; and noted his enthusiasm to look at the concept and how it worked in other communities, and how it may provide a different path to follow. However, based on the process outlined in tonight's meeting materials, Councilmember Willmus advised that it involved a totally different path for implementation than he originally thought. Councilmember Willmus advised that he found it interesting to hear comments from his colleagues comparing this to creation of the HRA, since similar insecurities and hesitations were brought up in creating that body as well. However, Councilmember Willmus noted that many good things that had come from that collaborative planning effort that the City Council would have been hard pressed to accomplish, and had become a great advantage to the City and its residents.

Recognizing that there were many pros and cons to creation of such a Board, Councilmember Willmus noted that he disagreed that there may be less accountability, since even the HRA "similar to a Park Board" came to the City Council to approve its levy, which was the City Council's ultimate control measure. Councilmember Willmus stated that he'd like to explore further whether a partnership with other community was a feasible avenue to consider, as suggested by Councilmember Etten.

As the Commission frequently heard the City Council speak on operational efficiencies, and in looking to potential partnerships with other communities beyond shared programming currently done, and as the City continued to struggle with the question of a community center, Councilmember Willmus suggested opportunities to look to Shoreview or Maplewood for shared opportunities as well. Councilmember Willmus thanked the Commission for their work to-date on the Park Board issue and discussions, and opined that it should remain on the table as a potential option down the road.

Since this Park Board issue came up, Mayor Roe stated that he'd struggled with it, even though appreciating the work, research and comparisons done by the Commission to-date. In using the HRA comparison as a model reference, Mayor Roe opined that was a minor portion of the City's annual

budget and staffing needs compared to the significant chunk of the budget represented by the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mayor Roe stated that he also had concerns with such a significant part of the City's operations not being under direct control of the City Council, City Manager and the process used to manage the rest of the City's government. Mayor Roe noted that he found this troubling, not because he didn't think the Park Board would do a good job, but for him it created too much distinction that would create more problems than it solved. However, Mayor Roe stated that he did like the idea of joint powers agreements for specific facilities, and joint efforts and projects with other communities. Mayor Roe advised that his preference would be not to pursue establishment of a Park Board further, but to seriously look at those opportunities.

Mayor Roe noted that the City was now making significant strides in addressing previously inadequate funding of Park & Recreation maintenance and infrastructure needs, especially in getting those CIP needs out over a twenty-year span. While that process needed to continue improving, Mayor Roe opined that part of his response was based on the need to continue those efforts and recognize them in the overall funding picture. Mayor Roe stated that he liked the idea of meeting more often, and suggested that regarding the CIP projections, the natural resources component was an excellent place to address those community needs and program them accordingly.

Overall, Mayor Roe stated that his response would be to use the tools already available and to the best of our ability. In terms of a future City Council not being as responsive to Park & Recreation needs, Mayor Roe opined that they needed to be held accountable by the community as they served or sought to serve on the City Council, especially in recognizing how parks & recreation aspects fit into the overall community and were not a second-class portion of the City of Roseville.

Regarding unification efforts, Councilmember McGehee opined that parks was an important part of the community and should be considered an essential service, and planning for its needs was an integral part of the City, not off on its own. Councilmember McGehee also supported the idea of joint powers agreements, especially for the southwest portion of Roseville, who frequent the Falcon Heights community park system, given its location directly across the street, and a way to address that neighborhood's needs rather than expending funds to acquire a small and inadequate space in Roseville for that area. However, Councilmember McGehee noted that Roseville residents had no way to access that building, and it may be nice to be able to do so to provide a meeting space for residents in southwest Roseville.

Chair Holt wanted to ensure that the tone of joint meetings of the Commission and City Council were not intended to be "us" against "you," and stated his intent to change that perspective, since the Commission saw itself as an extension of and working for the City Council, given the City Council's limited time and busy agendas dissuading their ability to delve into major issues to any great depth. Chair Holt noted that the City Council tasked the Commission to research this, which they did at length, and as Councilmember McGehee stated, considered itself to be an essential service to the community and would like to be positioned as such and strongly valued throughout the community, and expressed the Commission's interest in promoting that going forward.

Commissioner Stoner stated that one of his concerns in the current system was about transparency. From his perspective, and using the community center as an example, Commissioner Stoner noted that the City Council had asked the Commission to survey the community for what they wanted, and they wanted many things, which had been reported back to the City Council; and based on the other financial needs of the City, the City Council said "No, it costs too much money." At that point, the Commission went back to the drawing board to streamline the proposal and determine what could be eliminated. However, then the taxpayer doesn't like spending money on a community center and tells the City Council that, while the other side talks to the Commission with their desire to have a center. Under that scenario, Commissioner Stoner questioned where the transparency was in that process, opining that it would be better to have all those discussions contained in one place where both sides were engaged versus a back and forth dialogue. Also, Commissioner Stoner also noted the many issues covered on a City Council agenda that limited dialogue, in addition to half of the year being devoted to the annual budget and levy process, further eliminating timely discussions and creating more problems with transparency. Commissioner Stoner spoke in support of a "one stop shop," that allow all voices to be heard and identify a specific pool of money to be spend on Parks & Recreation programs and services, and the need to then pare things back with public comment on what was kept or what was out, which would serve to keep the community happy to know that everyone wouldn't get everything they wanted.

With additional comments regarding transparency, Chair Holt concurred that it was key, and the desire of the Commission was to make the process even more transparent to the public, and that transparency was a big issue that he felt a Park Board could address from that perspective versus

the current Commission, allowing the public to see annually what was being appropriated to the Park Board. Chair Holt assured Councilmembers that their recommendation was not intended as a control issue, but simply to make things more transparent to the public, with the control obviously remaining at the City Council level, with the Park Board focused on maintaining that essential service that was valued by all.

Councilmember Laliberte stated that she didn't disagree with the transparency issue; but with previous engagement issues, she remained concerned that some decision-making would be made at the Park Board level with an empty room versus a more publicly perceived City Council meeting. Councilmember Laliberte advised that she needed to make that connection even though she wasn't confident all the engagement and communication components had been addressed sufficiently.

Specific to their research about a Park Board, Commissioner Doneen noted that they varied throughout the state, along with their duties which were established by the City Council, and asked that this be given consideration as well, if there were specific concerns or aspects that the City Council wanted to remain involved in. Commissioner Doneen noted that it wasn't a "one fits all" aspect for a Park Board, and the City Council could decide what was needed and which areas would be more of a focus of the Park Board or for the City Council.

Councilmember McGehee expressed appreciation of the Commission's work and expressed understanding of the transparency issue; reiterating her support for a referendum on this and ultimate disappointment that it was not done. Councilmember McGehee stated that she saw that as an important engagement tool to educate the public before they went to the polls, similar to the City Hall/Public Works Building referendum, with changes made to the original plan as part of that process, and openly discussed as part of the "People's City Hall." Councilmember McGehee expressed her strong support of that process, but was unsure how to fit that into the operation of a Park Board. From her perspective with large expenditures of public funds, Councilmember McGehee opined that it was critical to have a referendum to engage citizens and their opportunity to weigh in later.

Mayor Roe noted that a referendum was required and clearly outlined by state statute for bonding in some circumstances, and that was the determining factor, and referendums were not based on the amount of money proposed to be spent.

Specific to establishment of a Park Board, Mayor Roe opined that it could solve things; but consideration of a community center was a specific project and there were ways available to solve funding issues without a Park Board.

In conclusion, Mayor Roe suggested discussion continue at the next joint meeting, with the consensus of the City Council to schedule joint meetings quarterly.

Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 8:48 p.m.

c. Receive Community Survey Results

Communications Manager Garry Bowman provided summary results of the community survey conducted in April of 2014, and as detailed in the RCA dated June 9, 2014. Mr. Bowman noted that this was a scientific telephone survey of 400 Roseville residents, divided into four quadrants: north or south of Highway 36 and east or west of Snelling Avenue. Mr. Bowman noted that those delineations may have somewhat skewed results due to heavier residential and/or commercial areas. Mr. Bowman advised that the demographic and age mix of the survey closely matched the 2010 census.

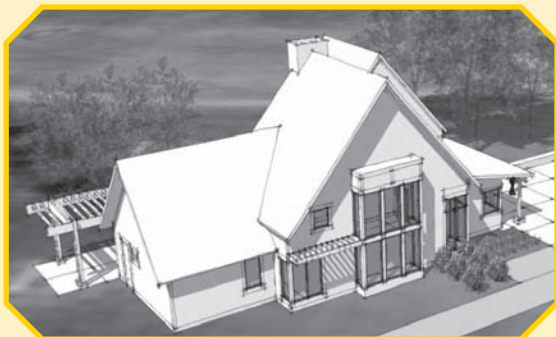
Mr. Bowman presented the key survey takeaways, with the presentation Mr. Bowman advised that, if interested, the Morris Leatherman firm would be happy to do a complete review of the survey as an alternative "brown bag" lunch for staff, the City Council and interested members of the public; or at a future City Council meeting at the discretion of the City Council. Mr. Bowman advised that the firm would be providing an Executive Summary within the next few months that would further analyze results.

Willmus moved, Laliberte seconded, TABLING this discussion for a future City Council Work session.

Councilmember Willmus began to move to table this discussion to a future City Council work session.

At the request of Councilmember Willmus, Mr. Bowman advised that he was preparing a news release with attachments for Tuesday morning, June 10, 2014 for the City's website and other sources.

Summer 2014 Renewal Program Projects



Roseville Parks have been the center of activity & development this summer.

The Parks & Recreation Renewal Program kicked off with a community celebration on May 31 & has been going strong ever since. Construction on the park buildings in Lexington, Sandcastle & Villa Parks are progressing nicely with completion scheduled for October 2014.

We look forward to celebrating these community gathering spaces with Neighborhood Open Houses later this year. Please stay tuned for event announcements.



Lexington Park Construction - July 24, 2014



May 31st Renewal Program Kick-off Celebration



Beginnings of a new hockey rink @ Lexington Park

Roseville's Newest Playgrounds @ CP Victoria Ballfields, Howard Johnson, Lexington & Materion Parks

Roseville's newest playgrounds have been enthusiastically & joyfully received by kids of all ages.

This generation of playgrounds embrace themes driven by ideas & suggestions made by neighbors throughout the recent master plan process. Each site is individualized through color, play features & supporting amenities. Today's playgrounds include cushioned safety surfaces, shade structures, adjacent benches & multi-age play features.



County Road B2 Sidewalk Project



CP Victoria Ballfields Playground



Howard Johnson Playground

Building Community Connections

Work has begun on the County Road B2 Sidewalk that connects schools & park access between Lexington Avenue & Rice Street. The new sidewalk will also extend north along Victoria to Central Park. Benches have been provided by Active Living Ramsey Communities. The sidewalk is scheduled for completion this fall.



Materion Playground



Langton Lake @ Cty RD C Playground

Fall 2014 Renewal Program Work Plan

Renewal Program Energy Continues thru the Fall

The Renewal Program to-do list continues to be active thru the fall months & into the winter.

- The Skating Center will get a facelift with exterior painting & improvements. Projected start date is mid-August with an October completion.
- Villa Park bridges are being replaced this fall for improved maintenance efficiencies & enhanced park user experiences.
- The FORParks, Foundation & Victoria Ballfields Shelters are being remodeled this fall. When the shelters open in the spring, the buildings will have roof replacements, exterior upgrades & kitchen/restroom improvements.
- Tennis Court improvements are scheduled for this fall and early spring 2015; projects include surface, lighting & fencing upgrades. Look for improved courts at Autumn Grove, Bruce Russell, Howard Johnson, Evergreen & Pocahontas Parks.
- Irrigation, fencing & turf work will be done to improve the ballfields at Evergreen Park & Central Park Victoria Softball Complex.
- Pathway lighting around Lake Bennett will be upgraded for improved energy efficiency & increased visibility.



Volunteer Buckthorn Removal Project @ Reservoir Woods

- Natural Resource Management Projects will be in full swing with invasive plant species removal in many parks throughout the city. Volunteers looking to work outdoors & help improve Roseville parks are encouraged to contact Kelly O'Brien @ 651-792-7028.
- The Park Buildings at Autumn Grove, Oasis & Rosebrook will be replaced. Work begins at these locations in early September. Each building will house bright, open community gathering spaces, accessible restrooms, servery & amenities specific to the surrounding park.
- These park buildings are scheduled to open late December. Please visit our website or check the winter Parks & Recreation brochure for more details as we get closer to the end of the year.



Artist rendition of FORParks/FORHANC interpretive feature

- We take the Renewal Program work inside & outside at the Nature Center. Scheduled facility improvements include: exterior repairs, HVAC upgrades, interpretive feature thanks to funding from FORParks & FORHANC, & lower level activity space improvements.

We are excited to replace the former wetland boardwalk with an accessible structure that will support learning opportunities & outdoor experiences.

- Playgrounds in Langton Lake Park (adjacent to the ballfields) & Acorn Park will be replaced this fall. We look to utilize the "Community Build" option from our contractor to secure additional play features. A Community Build involves community members coming together to help build the playground in exchange for credits toward playground equipment.

For more information on how you can become involved with the Langton Lake or Acorn Park Community Build please contact Kelly O'Brien at 651-792-7028.



Materion Park Community Build Volunteers

Kara Thomas

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2014 9:50 AM
To: *RVParksCommission
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

The following form was submitted via your website: Contact Parks and Recreation Commission

Subject:: city labyrinth

Name:: roger hess jr
Address:: 1913 shady beach avenue
City:: Roseville
State: : MN
Zip:: 55113

How would you prefer to be contacted? Remember to fill in the corresponding contact information in the fields below.:
No need to contact me Phone Number:: 651-270-6910 Email Address:: rogerhessjr@aol.com

Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern: <http://www.labyrinthociety.org/>

commission member,

because of the parks renewal program, you will be laying a lot of concrete. for a very small amount of money, you could include an indoor and/or outdoor public labyrinth inset/engraved into some of this concrete.

if you go to the link i have included in this email, you will see that labyrinths have been constructed all over the world, for various reasons, and a meditation labyrinth open to the public in roseville would be a wonderful addition.

according to this website, there are 252 labyrinths in minnesota. close by there are private ones in roseville, plus centennial united methodist church, roseville lutheran church, como park, MN science museum, and concordia university all have some variation of a labyrinth.

i believe this is something you should at least consider because there are many people in roseville with strong spiritual feelings who would use a labyrinth, it would be very cheap to build, and i believe we have many talented residents who could quickly come up with a design. they are not used only for religious reasons, but also for meditation, and besides the arboretum, there aren't many places in roseville for a person to just relax and contemplate topics. this would also be one of the few roseville park features that could be used by people who have mobility challenges, since people who need to use walkers, wheelchairs, scooters, etc, could utilize a labyrinth that is on concrete.

even if you did not create a permanent labyrinth in concrete, you could designate a large slab of concrete where artists could create a temporary labyrinth with paint or other materials, and you could change the pattern each year or a few times each summer.

thanks for listening and have a great day,

roger

roger hess, jr.

Submit a Document/Photo Here: No file was uploaded

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 6/4/2014 9:50:02 AM

Submitted from IP Address: 75.146.181.106 Referrer Page: <http://www.cityofroseville.com/index.aspx?NID=76>

Form Address: <http://www.cityofroseville.com/Forms.aspx?FID=135>

To Make Children Healthier, A Doctor Prescribes A Trip To The Park

by Sam Sanders
July 14, 2014 4:28 AM ET



Dr. Robert Zarr, second from right, leads a hike through a park in Washington, D.C.

When Dr. Robert Zarr wanted a young patient to get more exercise, he gave her an unusual prescription: Get off the bus to school earlier.

"She has to take a bus to the train, then a train to another bus, then that bus to her school," says Zarr, a pediatrician at Unity Health Care, a clinic that serves low-income and uninsured families in Washington, D.C. So the prescription read: "Walk the remaining four blocks on the second bus on your route to school from home, every day."

Kelssi Aguilar, his 13-year-old patient, wasn't exactly excited about the change at first. "He told me about the four blocks and I told him it was a 40-minute walk and I was too lazy," she said. "I was thinking, am I really doing this? I'm going to be late for school."

Kelssi was actually 10 minutes early the first day she tried the modified route. Kelssi has kept up the walking. And Zarr says she's moved from obese to just overweight — which is very good.

About 40 percent of Zarr's young patients are overweight or obese, which has led the doctor to come up with ways to give them very specific recommendations for physical activity. And that has meant mapping out all of the parks in the District of Columbia — 380 parks so far.

The parks, mapped and rated based on facilities and in a searchable database by zip code, can be linked to patients' electronic medical records. Zarr did it with help from the National Park Service and volunteers from George Washington University's School of Public Health, park rangers and other doctors. Zarr also received some funding for the project from the National Recreation and Park Association, the National Environmental Education Foundation, and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Zarr writes park prescriptions on a special prescription pad, in English and Spanish, with the words "Rx for Outdoor Activity" on top, and a schedule slot that asks, "When and where will you play outside this week?"

But it's not just about the parks. It's about what the patients want, too.

"I like to listen and find out what it is my patients like to do," Zarr says, "and then gauge the parks based on their interests, based on their schedules, based on the things they're willing to do."

There are other park prescriptions projects getting started across the country, but none have matched the level of detail in Zarr's parks database.

To Get Kids Exercising, Schools Are Becoming Creative

Many children aren't used to going to parks, notes [Dr. Steven Pont](#), medical director for the Texas Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Childhood Obesity in Austin.

"If you didn't grow up in a family that went camping or experienced outdoors and if you're more from an urban environment, then going out to a park and experiencing nature might seem a little daunting," Pont says.

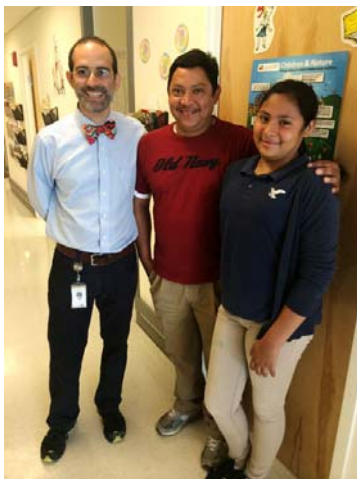
A program like Zarr's can help reduce that discomfort, Pont says. "The park prescriptions really help kids and families engage and get to those parks and say, 'Hey, I belong here too.' "

Most Teens Aren't Active Enough, And It's Not Always Their Fault

Of course, not every park is safe, especially in the District. The neighborhood next to one of the parks Zarr discussed with Kelssi, Kingman Island, had 30 incidents of violent crime over the past year.

"The more parks are used, the more people are there, the safer and the better they are," Zarr says. "We want people first and foremost to be safe, and be active and be part of the solution to fixing parks that aren't quite what they should be."

Ultimately, Zarr says, he wants his parks database to exist in an app, on your smartphone, where doctors and patients alike can use it. And, one day he'd like to be able to track his patients' activity in parks, to find out exactly how much good a little green space can do.



Zarr with Kelsi Aguilar and her father, Felipe, in Zarr's Washington, D.C., office.