

ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
April 3, 2018 6:30pm

PRESENT: Bole, Gelbach, Heikkila, Hoag, O'Brien, Quick, Stoner, Warzecha
ABSENT: Baggenstoss, Newby
STAFF: Brokke, Christensen, Taylor

1) INTRODUCTIONS

Commissioner Newby and Vice-Chair Baggenstoss informed staff prior to the meeting that they would not be in attendance.

2) ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Two members of the public were in attendance to hear additional information on the Roseville Deer Population Report. Chair O'Brien proposed moving up the Deer Population Agenda item to accommodate the public participants.

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 6, 2018 MEETING

Commissioner Gelbach moved to approve the March 6, 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Heikkila seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

4) ROSEVILLE DEER POPULATION REPORT

Staff provided a history of the deer population in Roseville. Over the last six years, the population has been: 2018 - 43, 2016 - 52, 2014 - 61 and 2013 - 57. In 2017, Roseville partnered with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to remove 20 deer from 4 locations in Roseville on January 31, 2017.

In 2014, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) assessed the deer habitat in Roseville. They determined that Roseville could support a deer population of 15-19.

Staff provided information on the deer reported by residents in 2017 and Quarter 1 2018.

Jenny Guthrie (1810 Alameda Street) reports seeing deer every day in her yard. She states her grandchildren can't play outside in her backyard due to droppings. Guthrie has been a resident for 25 years and has not seen destruction like this in the past. She requested the Commission work to bring the deer population to a manageable and sustainable level.

The Commission discussed the deer population and the 2017 USDA reduction program.

Nancy Burgette (1815 Alameda Street) has observed deer migration through her neighborhood. She states that the deer sit under trees and she feels the helicopter may not see

all of them during the flyover population count. She has counted 15 deer on her property at one time.

Commissioner Bole reiterated that the deer population in his yard destroyed his raspberry bushes. He conveyed that he feels a recommendation should be made to the City Council to reduce the deer population.

Commissioner Quick questioned how long the reduction effort would take, as he stated concerns that a 50% reduction of population in one year could affect the biodiversity of ecosystems.

Commissioner Gelbach asked if we could request the removal of injured deer by the USDA. Staff commented that it would be difficult as the hunt is done at night via thermal imaging.

Commissioner Hoag inquired if multiple locations could be utilized for the hunt, as he seconded concern about removing too many deer from one location. Also, he questioned the counts of Shoreview as many of the deer in northern Roseville would cross between the two cities.

Commissioner Heikkila clarified that the intention would never be to wipe out the deer population in Roseville.

Commissioners Recommendation:

Commissioner Bole moved to recommend to the City Council to move forward with a removal of 20 deer in 2018/2019 and to continue with an ongoing reduction effort based upon the analysis and survey numbers. Commissioner Warzecha seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

5) PARK MAINTENANCE AND PROJECT REVIEW

Maintenance Superintendent, Jim Taylor, provided an overview of the 2017 maintenance operations and an upcoming look at projects in 2018.

The 2017 projects included park planning at 2134 Cleveland Avenue, 1716 Marion Street and the playground at Tamarack Park. Tree projects were completed at multiple parks including tree removals, plantings and EAB treatments. The Natural Resource Renewal Program had 88 new volunteers in 2017. Maintenance projects included: facility improvements (painting, new roof), upgraded puppet wagon, Harriet Alexander Nature Center (HANC) windows, new hockey goals, fountain repair, and maintenance for recreation programs.

Taylor provided an overview of the snow removal policy. The aim of Roseville Parks and Recreation maintenance is to get the parks, sidewalks and parking lots cleared of snow in 24 hours.

2018 planned maintenance projects include:

- Completion of the Cedarholm Community Building
- Community builds at 1716 Marion Street and 2134 Cleveland Avenue
- Partner funded projects
- Renewal program projects (downspout, electronic doors in park bathrooms)
- Natural Resource Restoration and Volunteer program
- Disease and Hazardous Tree Program – EAB
- Facilities Maintenance
- Maintenance staff training
- Trash and recycling program
- ADA evaluation
- Review of evaluation methods

Commissioner Stoner questioned the use of salt in snow removal. Staff confirmed that multiple staff members have been to Salt School and the department is very selective in their use of salt.

Commissioner Bole questioned if the current snow will interfere with recreation programs. Staff confirmed that it will depend on the weather in the next few weeks.

Chair O'Brien stated that she is always impressed with all of the projects that the maintenance staff completes and finds it very interesting to hear the different components.

Staff confirmed that Taylor will be at a subsequent Commission meeting to discuss Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in further detail.

6) **ONGOING TOPICS**

a) Cedarholm Community Building Replacement

Currently, the windows, exterior, electrical, plumbing and HVAC are being installed. The Cedarholm Community Building is still scheduled for a completion date of June 15, 2018.

Staff encourages anyone who would like a tour of the building to reach out. In addition, it was proposed that the May Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting include a tour.

Commissioner Stoner reminded everyone of the June 22, 2018 Cedarholm Community Building Open House.

b) Discover Your Parks Schedule Review

Nine Discover Your Parks (DYP) events are scheduled for the summer. Staff provided a sign-up list for Commissioners to attend and represent the Commission.

7) STAFF REPORT

- The OVAL closed for the season on March 4, 2018.
- April 11 - Ethics Training at City Hall beginning at 6:00p.m. with a light dinner, Ethics presentation to follow
- Staff encouraged residents to come to the April 9, 2018 City Council Meeting to hear the Roseville Deer Population Report
- April 8 - Roseville Community Band playing at Roseville Area High School
- April 27, 28 and 29 - Ice Show at Roseville Skating Center
- Reservations are being taken for the Cedarholm Community Building. The building will be available year round and seats up to 120.
- April 21 - Earth Day Celebration at Harriet Alexander Nature Center (10:00a.m.-2:00p.m.)
- April 21 - Natural Resource Renewal Event at Evergreen Park (10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.)
- May 19 - Natural Resource Renewal Event at Central Park Lexington (10:00a.m.-12:00p.m.)
- Parks and Recreation brochures are in homes
- April 27 - Friends of Roseville Parks Spring Luncheon at Town and Country Club
- The Primer has been added to the Parks and Recreation Commission webpage

8) OTHER

Chair O'Brien suggested showing Commissioner Heikkila's video that was created for Almanac at the May Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Danielle Christensen, Department Assistant