

**City of Fridley
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting**

AGENDA

DATE: May 7, 2018

LOCATION: Fridley Municipal Center – Meeting Room 1

ROLL CALL

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF: April 2, 2018

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA: May 7, 2018

1. **STAFF REPORT**

- a. Program Update
- b. Springbrook Nature Center Report
- c. Showmobile Recommendation
- d. Civic Campus Update
- e. Locke Park Playground Equipment Donation to Woodcrest Baptist Church

2. **NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Election of Officers
- b. Request to Close Moore Lake Beach
- c. Boundary Changes for Anoka County Parks and Locke Park
- d. Park Tours

3. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Moore Lake Project Update
- b.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting: Monday, June 4, 2018 at the Fridley Municipal Center – Meeting Room 1.

CITY OF FRIDLEY
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – APRIL 2, 2018

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Heintz called the April 2, 2018 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Mike Heintz, EB Graham, Shanna Larson

Others Present: Debbie Dahl, Director of Community Services & Employee Resources
Toni Craft, Director of Community Education

APPROVAL OF March 5, 2018 PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2018 meeting.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL MEMBERS VOTING AYE, CHAIRPERSON HEINTZ DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA FOR APRIL 2, 2018

MOTION by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham, to approve the agenda for the April 2, 2018 meeting as submitted by staff.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL MEMBERS VOTING AYE, CHAIRPERSON HEINTZ DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED.

1. STAFF REPORT

a. Program Update

Ms. Dahl stated that the Program Update includes information on programs and activities during the past month. The update included information on the recreation software conversion, details on the new picnic pavilion at Springbrook Nature Center and increased need for soccer fields.

b. Park Maintenance Report

Ms. Dahl stated that the meeting packet included a report from Operations Manager for Streets and Parks Jeff Jensen about activity of the Park Maintenance division during the past month. The Parks Department has been busy trimming trees in the parks, making repairs to all hockey rinks, goals and benches. They are also preparing to move into the new location in June.

c. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Ms. Dahl stated that the annual Springbrook Spree was held on March 3rd at the Springbrook Nature Center. After expenses, about \$18,000 was raised for the nature center, including funding for a future picnic pavilion.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Request to Waive Fee for SNC Rental- Firefly Sisterhood

Ms. Dahl stated that the Nature Center received a request from The Firefly Sisterhood to waive their rental fee for an upcoming date in June. Ms. Dahl further stated that Mr. Maher's recommendation would be to deny the request, because we don't want to make exceptions for one rental group.

Motion by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham, to deny the request to waive the rental fee as requested by The Firefly Sisterhood.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL MEMBERS VOTING AYE, CHAIRPERSON HEINTZ DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED

b. Electronic Packets/ Agenda Process

Ms. Dahl spoke to the commission about the possibility of having electronic packets instead of paper packets delivered to their house each month.

The Commission agreed that they would like to have the packets printed and delivered to their house and sent electronically for three months, and then will discuss how they would like to receive them going forward.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. FCC Update

Ms. Dahl stated that she had a verbal report to give to the commission regarding the agreement with the School District. The transition with Senior Program has gone smooth and the relationship between the City and the Fridley School District is very positive. The School District is doing renovations to the Community Center this summer. The construction will include a new HVAC system, roof, bathrooms and security updates. The estimated construction cost to the City is \$1.5 million. With the Senior Programs now being run by Community Education, the City only uses about 10% of the building. The City doesn't have the money in the budget to cover the cost of construction, therefore, the City will be released from the current agreement.

Ms. Larson stated that having the Zone in a building that isn't within walking distance from the school will be detrimental to the program. A lot of the participants come right after school.

Ms. Dahl stated that we don't have a solution yet, but the School District is planning to have after school programs for that age group.

Mr. Heintz stated that we need to keep the Zone. It is an important program for the kids who use it. The kids learn leadership, get homework help and have a safe place to go after school.

Ms. Larson stated that it's great for the City to provide afterschool care for kids through middle school.

Ms. Dahl stated that there is not a charge for Learning Academy, which will be offered after school through Community Education.

Ms. Larson stated that Learning Academy is open to a limited number of kids per semester, and they have a shortage of volunteer teachers.

Ms. Craft stated that there will be an expansion of the program and may be combined with youth enrichment activities.

Ms. Larson and Mr. Heintz stated that the Zone is a very important program, and stressed that they would like to see the program continue.

Ms. Dahl stated that staff needs to sit down together and figure out what the options are for future programs. The School District will allow the City to use space at the Community Center, and would pay the non-profit fee.

Mr. Heintz stated the possibility of paying rent at the Community Center for 9 months and use the facility during the school year.

Ms. Dahl stated that she will sit down with staff and see what the alternative ideas the City has.

Ms. Larson asked if we could build a space or add on to the structure at Commons Park.

Ms. Dahl stated that the park master plan includes options for new shelters in parks.

Mr. Heintz stated that the ROCKS program could be run out of the warming house. The commission has wanted to replace the warming house for years, maybe that's something to look into.

Ms. Dahl stated that it's too soon to make any decisions, but wanted to let the commission know about the changes happening with the Community Center.

Mr. Heintz stated that the School District might have a plan for after school activities, but we don't know for sure. If the after school activities planned by Community Education are not as popular as the Zone, then the kids won't go. The kids that attend the Zone and the field trips have developed a relationship with the Zone staff and they trust them.

Ms. Dahl thanked the commission for their feedback and understands that the commission would like to see the Zone program continue and have clear alternatives.

Ms. Craft stated that Community Education is excited to work with the City on future programs.

Mr. Heintz stated that if the City has to pay to use rental space at the Community Center, then will the City charge the School District to use City property for sports?

Ms. Dahl stated that part of the agreement is looking at common space. Currently, we are working to clarify who uses what fields.

b. Moore Lake Update

Ms. Dahl stated that Moore Lake is in transition this year and is looking for the commission's input on what to do with the beach. Ms. Dahl stated that she has received feedback that the lake is less than ideal for swimming, and in order for the City to call it a swimming beach we have to monitor the water and have it staffed.

Mr. Heintz stated that Fridley residents don't use the beach.

Ms. Dahl stated that if the beach does close that the shelters, courts and porta potties would still be available.

Ms. Larson stated that if the city closes the beach it would send a message that we are aware of the problems and are working on it.

Ms. Dahl stated that the City will need to consult attorneys, because if the beach is closed would we need to enforce it if people are in the water.

Motion by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham, to table the Moore Lake Waterfront Act until after the City has spoken with attorneys.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL MEMBERS VOTING AYE, CHAIRPERSON HEINTZ DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED

MOTION by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham, to adjourn the April 2, 2018 meeting at 8:25 p.m.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL MEMBERS VOTING AYE, CHAIRPERSON HEINTZ DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED AND THE APRIL 2, 2018 MEETING ADJOURNED.



UPDATE

April 2018

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SNC Pavillion

No word on the grant for Springbrook Nature Center's Pavillion just yet. Staff will notify the Commission when there is any news or activity. Plans are being modified and the SNC Foundation have launched a fundraising campaign for the project.

Soccer Fields

Thanks to the great work of Jeff Jensen, the parks crews and Cleve McCoy, staff has been able to accommodate all requests for the summer soccer programs on City properties. It required a collaborative and creative process to repurpose some areas, shift programs and resize some of the current fields. Stevenson Elementary will not be used for soccer programs and staff needed to utilize the goals for other fields. It is clear we will have to do more to consider adding more soccer fields as interests keep growing, particularly with the new soccer stadium in St. Paul.

Registration Software

Staff has attended a number of training and input sessions under a very busy time and schedules to attend several full days of training. Sue Johnson has done a terrific job coordinating all of the homework, meetings and staff. Tara Rogness, Mary Morris, Margo Numedahl and Cleve McCoy have been very dedicated to attend many meetings to make sure the system is designed and set up correctly to accommodate current as well as future needs. Implementation is going smoothly with a go-live expected in October.

Staffing

Summer recreation and SNC staff is going through the backgrounding process for hiring up to 25 staff members. Staff training will be the first week in June with programs starting June 11. Some of the Park Maintenance staff will be starting this week.

49'ers Day Event

Sue Johnson and Margo Numedahl have been working with the committee on plans for the event, which involves coordinating the arrangements for City involvement (i.e. police, fire, public works), as well as the Kids Day activities, etc.

FCC Termination Agreement Adopted

The termination agreement between the City and the Fridley School District was adopted by the Fridley School District and now by the Fridley City Council and is now executed, effective June 1, 2018. Staff is still researching and discussing alternatives, routine maintenance needs and fee structures where there are collaborative situations. The termination of the FCC Agreement does not affect the Hayes Agreement, which is still in force.

Update on the Zone

Staff is collecting information and ideas from participants and parents at a *Zone is Under Construction* event (May 18). The year-end party is on June 1, which will be the last day of the operation at the Fridley Community Center. Alternatives are being considered to offer programs to the teens, such as "Rec On The Go" and programs at Fridley Terrace and Rice Creek Townhomes, as well as other locations throughout the City. Staff still may offer spot programs or events at the school district and will keep the participants and parents updated, along with the Commission for future programs.

Park Dedication Fees

Staff is hopeful that with the new development project on East River Road and the Civic Campus housing development that there will be some significant funding for park dedication fees to assist with some of the Civic Campus park grounds, the Locke Park Playground, as well as other needed park improvements. More information will be available as the projects and information unfold.

The summer activities brochure has been delivered to residents.



Locke Park Playground

Staff provided an update to the Anoka County representatives on the civic campus project and discussed the relocation of the playground. Both representatives had no objections to the relocation or the placement of the new playground. No formal designs or plans have been drawn up or determined, however, general concepts were discussed related to interests. Anoka County indicated that no funding had been earmarked for the project or dedicated in their CIP. The City will be reviewing ideas, needs and concepts as a part of the master parks plan and will provide updates to the Commission as available.

Town Hall Meeting

More than 115 people turned out for the April 28 Town Hall Meeting. Along with an update on the budget and civic campus, staff discussed the recent changes in Park and Recreation and department reorganization. Staff from the Springbrook Nature Center, Recreation, and Communications were on hand to answer questions and discuss programs. An on-line survey about the parks system was announced and results will be presented at the Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting on May 7th. Feel free to take the survey at www.polco.us/fridley



Master Parks Plan

You may recall that City Manager, Wally Wysopal recently directed staff to develop a comprehensive Master Parks Plan for the City. Jeff Jensen, Mike Maher, Rachel Wor-kin and Deb Dahl will be starting the Master Parks Plan process on May 9th. Staff will be establishing criteria and vision for the plan and seek input from the Parks and Recreation Commission early on to get input on the vision and goals. A large part of the plan will be to document and assess current conditions and ADA accessibility, as well as to research needs, and develop a program and recommendations for improvements, which will also include a financial plan for the budget and CIP. Staff will prepare some questions for the Commission to consider and assist in the planning process. As the project progresses, staff will bring updates back to the Commission for updates and ultimately adoption.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)

Staff is preparing proposals for the 2019 CIP, which will include a request for the replacement of the 9 passenger van as well as a modified RV/Food Truck to be used for spot events and Rec On the Go.

Electronic Agenda and Packets

As discussed at the last meeting, staff will begin sending agenda packets electronically and make them available on the City's website, similar to other commissions. Paper packets will still be distributed through July and then the Commission can decide which option they prefer. As a convenience for commission members and public, staff will still have printed packets available at the meetings.

Don't just read about Fridley history...

EXPERIENCE IT!

Step aboard our comfortable coach bus and be transported back in time. Encounter costumed characters from the 1850s and visit historic landmarks during this narrated tour of an area that 170 years ago was known as Manomin (now Fridley).

**4th Annual Fridley History Tour:
Saturday, June 16, 1 - 4:15 p.m.**

Tour begins and ends at the Fridley History Center located at 611 Mississippi St NE. Lunch will be held at the historic Riedel House along the banks of the Mississippi River.

Cost is \$25/person. To register contact the Fridley Recreation office before June 8 at 763-572-3570. Limited to 45 guests.

Mark Your Calendar!

May 15 - FREE CPR Training, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. at the Fridley Community Center, Room 112. Fridley Police and Fire want to make Fridley a Heart Safe Community!

May - June - *Police Neighborhood Meetings*
Throughout May and June, Neighborhood Resource Officers will be hosting events at parks throughout the city. This is a great opportunity to meet the officers and share concerns.

June 14 - 49er Day Parade, 6:30 p.m.

June 16 - 49er Day Festival, 12:00 - 10:00 p.m.

June 29 - Fridays with Fridley Fire, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Fridley Fire is opening the bays on Fridays this summer. You can meet the firefighters, check out the trucks, get a station tour, make a fire escape plan and learn what you can do to prevent fires at home.



Memo

To: Fridley Park and Recreation Commission
From: Deborah Dahl, Director Community Services and Employee Resources
Date: May 4, 2018
Re: **MOORE LAKE BEACH CLOSURE PROPOSAL**

BACKGROUND:

As you know, the City of Fridley owns park property on the east side of Moore Lake, which offers a swimming beach. In the distant past, the beach has been a popular location for lake swimming along with other popular amenities such as two picnic shelters, basketball and tennis courts, a sand volleyball area, walking trails, and fishing pier, as well as a concession stand, restrooms, and parking lot.

Typically, the swimming beach is open from mid-June through mid-August, unless closed due to water quality issues or as directed by the Park and Recreation Commission.

While a very popular beach decades ago, the use of the beach has significantly declined over the years. With the reduction of use, the City has also not provided a supervised beach with lifeguards for more than ten (10) years. Buoys are, however, placed to designate a swimming zone and swimmers are informed that swimming is at their own risk. City staff has operated a building during limited hours (12 noon to 8 p.m.) and provided a staff member to monitor the grounds at the facility for the summer.

ISSUES:

Staff have been receiving feedback from the public, City Council and Park and Recreation Commission members to consider closing the area for the following reasons:

- The beach is no longer as popular as it once was and staff have reported fewer and fewer residents appear to be using the beach.
- Though the water quality has not been a major issue, it has been reported to staff that the appearance or attraction of the water is less than desirable for swimming. Many comments from the public in a 2016 survey also indicated the poor conditions as well.
- The cost for the Recreation Department to open, operate and staff the beach house and restroom facility is estimated over \$5,000.
- In addition to the maintenance staff needed to install, maintain and pull the beach buoys/markers each year, there is significant weekly maintenance performed by Public Works crews to groom, rake and maintain the beach and waterfront.
- If the beach is defined as a swimming beach, the City is required to monitor the water quality weekly and consider treatments if there are high levels of bacteria, which is again costly.

- The goose and duck population grows each year and additional goose management is necessary and contracted with a third-party, which requires permits and can be costly. Though it still may be required to control the grounds and picnic areas, changing the waterfront may help to control the nuisance over time. Staff will continue to monitor the waterfowl population and make recommendations to support a goose management project for 2018.
- It appears reports are growing each year in the Metro Area to close water access due to high bacteria, e-coli and algae levels.
- According to staff, the beach house/building, which houses some storage, equipment and public restrooms, is in need of renovation and repair.
- While a formal study has not been conducted to address the water quality of the entire lake and beach issues for a permanent swimming solution, staff believes the options are extremely costly and unaffordable and would require resources that appear to not be within reach.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- The Moore Lake Park is still a popular park for picnics, basketball, volleyball, tennis, walking, as well as fishing. All of the amenities besides the beach, including parking and portable satellite toilets, are still in place and will continue to be offered, maintained and supported.
- In addition to installing proper signage, Parks Operations Manager, Jeff Jensen, recommends placing a rip-rap rock barrier and create a walking path along the waterfront with grass seed or wood chips. This will discourage swimmers but will create a nicer and lower-cost temporary solution until the overall park master plan can be addressed.
- The swimming beach and park amenities will be reviewed and revisited as a part of the Master Park Plan and Moore Lake Park reconstruction project.
- Staff has contacted the risk management group at the League of Minnesota Cities (the City's insurers) who provided additional guidance and advice on closing the beach, including recommending that staff provide public notice and constructing signage in addition to modifying the waterfront.
- The City's Police Department would continue to patrol the grounds and enforce any regulations per City Code and Charter.
- According to the Fridley City Code Chapter 507, the Fridley City Council has the authority to "designate" municipal swimming beaches and is believed to be the authority to close the beach. The Park and Recreation Commission determines the season and hours of operation.
- No changes are recommended at this time to change the current Chapter 507 of the Fridley City Code.
- If approved, staff will take measures to prepare a resolution for City Council to be presented at the next City Council meeting. If adopted, staff would begin the communication and inform the public where possible of the beach closure and follow through on the waterfront modification and further signage.

ACTION NEEDED:

Staff is recommending that the Fridley Park and Recreation Commission make a motion to support the decision to close the designated swimming beach at East Moore Lake Swimming Beach.

DKD

Moore Lake Beach Attendance Report

Taken in 2 hour Increments

Date	Peak In Water	Peak On Beach	Date	Peak In Water	Peak On Beach
7/13/2014	23	25	6/10/2017	19	19
7/14/2014	0	0	6/11/2017	0	0
7/15/2014	0	0	6/12/2017	6	4
7/16/2014	8	13	6/13/2017	10	7
7/17/2014	14	7	6/14/2017	10	10
7/18/2014	5	5	6/15/2017	13	7
7/19/2014	6	9	6/16/2017	11	9
7/20/2014	24	20	6/17/2017	20	30
7/21/2014	26	22	6/18/2017	14	9
7/22/2014	29	24	6/19/2017	7	6
7/23/2014	7	9	6/20/2017	7	9
7/24/2014	5	6	6/21/2017	7	18
7/25/2014	3	3	6/22/2017	0	0
7/26/2014	26	36	6/23/2017	1	3
7/27/2014	3	4	6/24/2017	5	5
7/28/2014	13	12	6/25/2017	0	0
7/29/2014	9	6	6/26/2017	0	0
7/30/2014	6	11	6/27/2017	0	0
7/31/2014	11	15	6/28/2017	0	0
8/1/2014	5	6	6/29/2017	1	3
8/2/2014	30	20	6/30/2017	15	7
8/3/2014	29	26	7/1/2017	3	3
8/4/2014	11	10	7/2/2017	20	15
8/5/2014	5	7	7/3/2017	10	8
8/6/2014	16	8	7/4/2017	37	41
8/7/2014	10	10	7/5/2017	12	17
			7/6/2017	22	12
			7/7/2017	7	8
			7/8/2017	27	40
			7/9/2017	16	16
			7/10/2017	10	17
			7/11/2017	12	9
			7/12/2017	18	10
			7/13/2017	4	0
			7/14/2017	6	3
			7/15/2017	22	26
			7/16/2017	34	29
			7/17/2017	3	11
			7/18/2017	8	4
			7/19/2017	0	0
			7/20/2017	2	12
			7/21/2017	3	4
			7/22/2017	29	28
			7/23/2017	11	20
			7/24/2017	4	5
			7/25/2017	3	2
			7/26/2017	13	3
			7/27/2017	7	8
			7/28/2017	0	3
			7/29/2017	0	0
			7/30/2017	2	3
			08/05/17	3	12
			08/06/17	0	0

2c.

Boundary Changes for Anoka County Parks and Locke Park

Staff met with representatives from Anoka County Parks on April 13th to discuss the relocation of the playground at the southwest corner of the development to the southeast corner. In discussing the plans and needs, Anoka County pointed out that the City still needed to have City Council adopt a resolution to revise the regional park boundary, based on previous agreements reached between the City and the County. It was advised that the resolution be adopted before work was initiated on the road within the next two weeks, so staff prepared the resolution for the April 16th meeting and expect it to get processed through the County and Met Council systems without issue.



**AGENDA ITEM
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF
APRIL 23, 2018**

TO: Walter Wysopal, City Manager *AW* PW18-025
FROM: Jon Lennander
DATE: April 20, 2018
SUBJECT: Resolution Supporting a Master Plan Boundary Amendment for Anoka County Parks and Locke Park.

The Fridley Civic Campus Project includes a new roadway to be known as Locke Parkway which is currently being designed. As a part of the development of the overall project, it was determined that a portion of Locke Parkway would need to be located within the boundaries of Locke Park due to size constraints of the Civic Campus site. In addition, the existing regional trail located on the Civic Campus site will be relocated as part of the Parkway construction.

Anoka County Parks were contacted, and an agreement was reached on a revision of the park boundaries as a part of the Civic Campus Project and the relocation of the trail. This agreement allows for Locke Parkway to be constructed within the current Locke Park boundaries in exchange for a portion of the Civic Campus property to become part of Locke Park.

The attached Figure shows the location of Locke Parkway inside the Park boundaries highlighted in blue. The Figure also shows the proposed patio home development by Pulte with the portion of the Civic Campus property that will become part of the regional park highlighted in green.

Anoka County Parks will request a Master Plan Boundary Amendment from the Metropolitan Council. As a part of that request, Anoka County Parks has asked the City of Fridley for a Resolution of Support of the Master Plan Boundary Amendment.

Staff recommends the City Council approve the attached resolution that supports the request to Metropolitan Council for a Master Plan Boundary Amendment for Locke Park.

JXL/jxl

Attachment

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-___
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE MASTER PLAN BOUNDARY
AMENDMENT FOR LOCKE PARK AND LOCKE PARKWAY

WHEREAS, the City of Fridley has approved and currently constructing the new Fridley Civic Campus project;

AND WHEREAS, the proposed Locke Parkway is a critical and important part of the Civic Campus project;

AND WHEREAS, the existing Master Plan for the Regional Park known as Locke Park describes the boundaries of the Regional Park;

AND WHEREAS, the proposed location of Locke Parkway is partially within the boundaries of Locke Park, and a portion of the Civic Campus property adjacent to the park will not be used for buildings or infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS, The City of Fridley and Anoka County Parks have agreed to modify the Master Plan Boundaries of Locke Park in order to exchange these areas;

AND WHEREAS, Anoka County Parks has requested a Resolution of Support for the Master Plan Boundary Amendment:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRIDLEY, MINNESOTA:

1. The council supports the request by Anoka County Parks to Metropolitan Council for a Master Plan Boundary Amendment for Locke Park in the City of Fridley.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRIDLEY THIS 23rd DAY OF APRIL, 2018.

ATTEST:

SCOTT J. LUND - MAYOR

DEBRA A. SKOGEN - CITY CLERK

**CITY OF FRIDLEY CIVIC CAMPUS PROJECT
LOCKE PARK MASTER PLAN BOUNDARY AMMENDMENT**



AREA TO BE REMOVED FROM PARK BOUNDARY



AREA TO BE ADDED TO PARK BOUNDARY



CITY OF FRIDLEY PUBLIC WORKS
6431 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, N.E.
FRIDLEY, MN 55432 763-577-3550