

CITY OF FRIDLEY
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – FEBRUARY 5, 2018

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Heintz called the February 5, 2018 Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting to order at 6:54 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Mike Heintz, Shanna Larson, EB Graham

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

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 8, 2018 PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Graham, seconded by Ms. Larson to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2018 meeting.

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

APPROVAL OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 5, 2018

MOTION by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham, to approve the agenda for the February 5, 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.

Ms. Dahl stated the Naturalists at the Nature Center have been programming Environmental Education programs at Hayes Elementary School, Chicks in the Sticks was held on January 26th and two more evenings are scheduled. Ms. Dahl further stated that the Discovery Dinner program at the Nature Center has been a popular event.

Ms. Dahl stated that 42 people participated in a trip to the Target Center to watch the Timberwolves play the New York Knicks. Ms. Dahl further stated that the Recreation Department offered two field trips during school-out days. They took a group of 15 kids to Crayola Experience at the Mall of America and group of 22 went to the Children's Museum.

Ms. Dahl stated that Fridley's Winterfest was held on January 20th. We had great weather and fun activities that brought out an estimated 800 people. Families really enjoyed all of the indoor and outdoor activities.

Ms. Dahl further stated that the warming house at Commons Park will be closing on February 19th.

Ms. Dahl stated that she has asked staff to create a master calendar that will show all upcoming events in the City. A few upcoming events include Mardi gras at the Senior Center, The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center presentation at Springbrook, and the Springbrook Spree.

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 Division has been busy keeping all the rinks in good shape and snowplowing and blowing the trails and sidewalks. The Park Maintenance staff also did a great job helping us set up the Winterfest activities.

c. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Ms. Dahl stated that a report from Nature Center Director Mike Maher has been included in the agenda packet. The Friends of Sax Zim Bog held their annual Boreal Wings Gala at Springbrook on January 21st. The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation is planning the annual Springbrook Spree fundraising event for Saturday, March 3rd. Ms. Dahl further stated that the Nature Center has two upcoming Discovery Dinners and invited the commission to attend.

d. \$10,000 Grant through Anoka County

Ms. Dahl stated that the City has been working on a \$10,000 grant through Anoka County to obtain funding for park-related equipment. One of the options will be to install bike racks or bike fix it stations within the new civic campus along the regional trail system. Rachel Workin and Jeff Jensen will be working with staff to complete the grant and will report back with updates.

e. Contact Information for Debbie Dahl

Ms. Dahl gave each member of the commission her business card and contact information.

f. Springbrook Nature Center Spring Fling

Ms. Dahl stated that the meeting packet included a flyer for the Springbrook Spree. The annual Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 3rd at 5:00pm.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Softball Tournament Request- Fridley High School

Ms. Dahl stated that the City has received a request from Fridley High School to host a softball tournament at Community Park on Saturday, May 5th. Fridley High School has run tournaments the past couple of years and have done a good job. Staff would recommend approval of this request.

MOTION by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham, to approve the request by Fridley High School to host a softball tournament at Community Park on May 5th, 2018, at the normal facility one day tournament rate.

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

b. Other Business

Ms. Dahl wrapped up the meeting by sharing updates with the commission. Ms. Dahl stated that changes are being made to the Recreation brochure, and asked the commission to share any feedback with her. Ms. Dahl further stated that Raquel will be promoting recreation programs through social media. Ms. Dahl also stated that the recreation department is getting new software to make registering more user friendly.

3. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Ms. Larson, seconded by Ms. Graham, to adjourn the February 5, 2018 meeting at 7:46 p.m.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL MEMBERS VOTING AYE, CHAIRPERSON HEINTZ DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED AND THE FEBRUARY 5, 2018 MEETING ADJOURNED.