

Open Space & Recreation Commission

January 27, 2020 – 6:30 pm
Valley North Room
Brookview Golden Valley
316 Brookview Parkway S

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Cornelius.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners present: Roger Bergman, John Cornelius, Bill Delaney, Max Hyberger, Kelly Kuebelbeck, and Della Daml.

Commissioners absent: Bob Mattison, Matthew Sanders, and Dawn Speltz.

Staff present: Rick Birno, Director of Parks and Recreation, John Stutzman, Recreation Supervisor; Maddy Champa, Recreation Coordinator; and Sheila Van Sloun, Administrative Assistant.

3. Agenda Changes or Additions

None.

4. Approval of November 25, 2019 and December 16, 2019 Minutes

MOTION moved by Bergman and seconded by Hyberger to approve the November 25, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION moved by Bergman and seconded by Delaney to approve the December 16, 2019 meeting minutes as amended with wording change in section six, paragraph one. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Introduce New Recreation Coordinator Maddy Champa

Birno gave a brief introduction for Ms. Champa stating she has been a team member for the cities of Edina and Richfield in many Parks and Recreation capacities. Birno said she has an excellent background for our recreation program needs and he is thrilled she has joined our team. Maddy started with Golden Valley Parks and Recreation as the Recreation Coordinator in mid-December.

Stutzman added that her role includes: coordination of ice rinks and warming houses, summer youth programs, pre-school youth programs, youth basketball, and special events.



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6. Fall and Winter Program Update and Summer Preview– Maddy Champa and John Stutzman

Stutzman and Champa gave updates on fall and winter youth programs, including:

- Youth fall soccer program had six teams in K-1 and three teams in grades 2-5.
- Parks and Recreation Scavenger Hunt had 26 registrations, which is up from 9 last year.
- Family style programs and events are very popular. Examples include parent/child classes, grandparent/child programs and family events. The family events continue to grow in popularity.
- MEA field trips to iFly Skydive Park had 35 participants and Trollhaugen Skiing had 32 participants.
- Supper with Santa had 150 participants, and the Sprinkles the Elf event had over 40 participants registered.
- Youth basketball had over 100 participants, with parents and grandparents volunteering to coach.
- Free Family Bingo night was a huge success with over 100 participants. Many families attended with pre-school aged children. We plan to offer the event again in the future with different themes.

Stutzman and Champa then shared information on upcoming winter activities, including Winterfest, Alphabits Kids Concert in February, and the Bilingual Story time in March. Cornelius suggested moving Winterfest up earlier in the season to encourage more attendance at the parks and rinks throughout the winter. Stutzman said he would look into options for moving the event earlier in the season.

Champa said the skating rinks were well attend this winter, with only four days of weather related closures.

Stutzman shared registration numbers to date for upcoming summer programs with early registration, including: Summer Playgrounds with 55 registrants, Summer Playgrounds 2.0 with 24 registrants, and Camp Valley with 76 registrants.

7. Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan – Annual Review Future Process

Birno said the City Council has designated the Open Space and Recreation Commission (OSRC) as the commission to provide direction and guidance for future projects and improvements on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. He noted the first meeting would be scheduled for the April 2021 OSRC meeting. Cornelius proposed Golden Valley Engineering staff attend a future OSRC meeting to provide an update on the progress of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Birno confirmed he would touch base with the GV Engineering Department and schedule an update meeting in the near future.

Commissioners expressed concern regarding the time commitment for annual public input for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and the impact on the OSRCs' ability to stay focused on parks and recreation. Birno noted that all public input would be the responsibility of Golden Valley Engineering staff.

8. **New Park System Dog Waste Station Sponsorship and Neighborhood Adopt-A-Station Program**

Birno outlined the new Pet Station sponsorship along with the park neighborhood Adopt-A-Pet Station bag replacement program. Neighborhoods, organizations, businesses, and individuals can sponsor a pet station for neighborhood volunteers to stock throughout the year. The sponsorship includes purchase of the bag station, installation, signage and pet waste bags for one year. Staff will purchase the pet stations, install the unit, and deliver bags to the volunteers throughout the year to keep the units stocked. The goal is to help keep our park areas clear of pet waste.

Kuebelbeck suggested pet stores may be interested in providing pet waste bags free for advertising on the pet station signs.

9. **Commission and Staff Update**

• **Staff Updates**

- Birno reminded the commission there is no OSRC meeting in February due to the scheduled Joint Council/Commission work session.
- Birno shared the sad news of the loss of longtime Parks and Recreation employee Noah Joynes. Noah has been an outstanding team member for over 14 years and a friend to us all. A celebration of his life will be held on February 15 from 1-3 pm at Brookview. He noted the City is also working with the Joynes family on the development of the Noah Joynes Youth Recreation Trust Fund in his honor.

• **Bassett Creek Trail Open House**

Birno said the open house will be held on February 24 at 4:30 pm at King of Grace Church and hosted by Three Rivers Park District.

• **Regional Trail Flooding In Theo Wirth Park Scheduled Project**

Birno shared details on the Theodore Wirth Park Luce Line trail flood project. The drainage siphon failed which has been causing the flooded trail for the past few years. The siphon will be replaced this March.

• **Art Showcase at Brookview**

Birno said that Golden Valley Arts and St. Louis Park Friends of the Arts are partnering to host an Artist Showcase featuring local artists from Golden Valley and St. Louis Park. The opening reception will be held at Brookview on January 31 from 5-9 pm.

• **Winter Curling Leagues and January Comedy Show**

Birno said winter curling leagues offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday are full. He also said the Brookview Comedy Show on January 18 is sold out.

• **Final Off-Leash and Community Garden Survey Results**

Birno distributed the final results from the online Medley Park Community Input Survey.

• **Nordic World Cup/Loppet Event**

Birno said the event is scheduled for March 13-17 at Theodore Wirth Park.

• **Joint Council and Commission Meeting**

Birno shared the meeting information which is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26 at 5:30 pm at Brookview and will be a work session meeting with dinner.

10. Adjournment

MOTION moved by Hyberger and seconded by Kuebelbeck to adjourn at 8:10 pm. Motion carried unanimously.



Sheila Van Sloun, Administrative Assistant



Bob Mattison, Chair