

Open Space & Recreation Commission

May 18, 2020 – 6:30 pm
Virtual WebEx

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Mattison.

2. Roll Call

Commissioners present: Roger Bergman, John Cornelius, Max Hyberger, Kelly Kuebelbeck, Bob Mattison, Linden Weiswerda, Matthew Sanders, Dawn Speltz, and Della Daml

Commissioners absent: Bill Delaney

Staff present: Rick Birno, Director of Parks and Recreation, Ben Disch, Golf Course Manager; and Sheila Van Sloun, Administrative Assistant

3. Agenda Changes or Additions

None.

4. Approval of April 27, 2020 Minutes

Mattison suggested listing all the youth athletic associations on our recognized list, to the motion in section 8.

MOTION moved by Speltz and seconded by Weiswerda to approve the April 27, 2020 meeting minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Hopkins Girls Basketball Association – Maggie Niska

Niska shared a short introduction. She went on to say the organization is trying to build the programs offered for younger ages by spreading out over multiple cities and using multiple resources for advertising. She said she has also been talking with John Stutzman, Recreation Supervisor, on how to boost the program. She said she had a plan together for spring opportunities, but everything was put on hold with the pandemic.

Niska shared there are sixty participants in grades 4-8, with a significant number of the 4th graders being from Golden Valley.

Hyberger asked where practices take place. Niska said at various facilities within the district, but they would love to be able to practice at Davis Community Center. Birno noted that Parks and Recreation staff will work with the group to find some practice time at Davis.



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To increase participation in the City's youth basketball K-1 program, Speltz suggested allowing a friend request. Birno will share the recommendation with staff.

6. Annual Board and Commission Orientation Review

Birno reviewed the orientation with the Commissioners.

Mattison reiterate the importance of following the open meeting law with the Commissioners.

Kuebelbeck inquired about the possibility of a regular online meeting link for Board and Commission meetings. She noted many members travel for business, are out of town for seasonal variations, and sometimes have unavoidable personal family commitments and therefore not able to attend meetings in person. Many members with meeting conflicts could still attend if virtual attendance was allowed. Mattison agreed with making this a regular option. Birno said it's not currently an option, however would share the recommendation with the City Manager.

7. COVID-19—Park and Recreation Services Update

Birno said Golden Valley Parks and Recreation is closed until further notice. He said currently all programs, meetings, and rentals are cancelled through June 12. He said some of the programs have been able to shift to a virtual option.

Adult Athletics, Older Adult Programs, and Youth Athletic Association activities are on hold until further notice.

8. COVID-19—Brookview Golf 2020 Season Operation Update

Disch shared brief updates on the 2020 winter and spring season. He said it's been the most unique start to a golf season in his 21 years with Brookview.

Disch said winter Pub Curling and the Three One Six Bar + Grill had great participation numbers and the entire 2020 operation was set up to have a great season before the pandemic.

Disch said staff worked hard on policy and safety procedures for the April 18 opening. He said they were sold out on opening day and were very pleased with how respectful guests were with the new safety procedures in place for the pandemic. He said they started the season with no power carts and only walking allowed. Since then, power cart restrictions have changed, but golfers walking the course during play has stayed very steady as golfers are opting to continue to walk versus renting a cart.

Disch said the driving range is open with social distancing parameters in place, but the building remains closed. Staff is working on opening the golf shop on June 1st. Tee times are currently being accepted over the phone with credit card payments only. Golf lessons are not being offered and lawn bowling remains closed until further notice.

Kuebelbeck asked if the patio at the Three One Six Bar + Grill will open with social distancing parameters in place. Disch said they will need to wait until May 20 when Governor Walz addresses the issue.

Mattison asked about goose mitigation. Disch said they would revisit options and the entire situation in the near future. Currently, they are still using the Denier light system installed a few years back to try and scatter the geese.

Daml asked if the Three One Six Bar + Grill is delivering. Disch said they are offering carry out only at this time. Hyberger suggested partnering with Uber Eats. Disch said business is pretty slow with a limited menu at the moment, but they could have a conversation in the future about the possibility.

Sanders asked if kids' golf camps and lessons would be taking place. Disch said due to the executive order in place, these programs are currently on hold. He also said that junior play on the course has skyrocketed. Speltz encouraged Disch to find a way to offer the junior programs this summer. Kuebelbeck agreed.

Disch shared a comparison between last year when they opened on April 4, 2019 and this year opening April 18, 2020, that their rounds are ahead of last year with the two week delayed opening and multiple restrictions. He shared that's the upside of all that's going on right now.

9. Elect Chair John Cornelius and Vice Chair Bob Mattison (Terms begin June 22, 2020)

Birno thanked Mattison and Speltz for their time and service as Chair and Vice Chair.

Bergman nominated Cornelius as Chair and Mattison as Vice Chair beginning June 22, 2020 for one year terms. Upon a vote being taken, vote was 9-0 in favor; vote approved.

10. Commission and Staff Update

- **Staff and Commission Updates**

- Mattison announced Hyberger's resignation due to moving, and thanked him for his service. Commissioners also shared well wishes to Hyberger.
- Mattison said he recently walked Bassett Creek Trail and suggests adding a crosswalk signal on the trail where it crosses Duluth Street so pedestrians have a safer crossing. Birno said with Three Rivers extending the trail along Golden Valley Road to Douglas Drive, it's a good time to open up the discussion with city staff, Three Rivers, and Hennepin County. Birno also said he would talk to Golden Valley Engineering staff about discussing issues with the OSRC.

- **Fee Based Virtual Recreation Programs**

Birno said virtual options for some of the recreation programs is going well. He said the department will continue exploring this option and do as many programs virtually when needed.

- **Bike Rodeo Recap**

Birno said the Bike Rodeo was offered virtually this year with over 200 participants logged in. He said it was a very good success.

- **Next OSRC Meeting Date is June 22, 2020**

Mattison reminded Commissioners that the next meeting will be held June 22 at 6:30 pm via WebEx.

11. Adjournment

MOTION moved by Kuebelbeck and seconded by Hyberger to adjourn at 8:25 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Sheila Van Sloun

Sheila Van Sloun, Administrative Assistant

Bob M. Mattison

Bob Mattison, Chair