

**City of Falcon Heights
Parks & Recreation Commission**

AGENDA

City Hall

Monday, November 19th

6:30 p.m.

X Melissa Weber-Sanders, Chair X Serena Jones-White X Matthew Waite
X Lonetta Hanson X Tom Keene X Christina Erickson ab Gordon Strom
X Staff Michelle Tesser ab Staff Tim Pittman ab Council Liaison Keith Gosline

1. Call to order
2. Approval of October 8th meeting minutes
3. Fall Programming Survey Results

Tesser received nine responses to her fall tennis and fall soccer surveys. Overall parents were pleased with the instructors' knowledge and the curriculum.

4. Winter
 - A. Winter Break Adventure Camp
 - B. Warming House attendants (three applications)
 - C. Winterfest Event
 - D. OLLI Classes

A. Winter Break Adventure Camp

Tesser discussed planning the winter camp again this year. Since Christmas is on a Tuesday this year the camp will have to be on Wednesday, Dec 26th through Dec 28th. The activities planned are snowshoeing, ice skating, snow coloring and other fun activities. Tesser will ask Roseville Nature Center for the use of snowshoes which is a cost of \$2.00 for each pair. The cost of the camp will be \$55.00 for residents and \$62.00 for non-residents. Tesser has two very experienced Rec Leaders who will staff the camp. One staff person ran Summer Discovery Camp in the summer. Tesser is currently advertising but snow is important to vitality of the program.

B. Warming House attendants

Tesser received three applications for rink attendants. There will be three returning attendants but they have limited schedules. Tesser is interviewing the first week of December. The rink will open December 23rd, if weather is cooperative.

C. Winterfest Event

Tesser has confirmed with Joel, owner of Suomi Kennel, to attend our event. His dog's will give rides to 2-3 people at a time. The cost is \$900.00 which includes mileage. Joel requested the snow to be packed down before the event and requires two volunteers to help with the lines. Tesser mentioned ski joing as something to do next year, Three Rivers District teaches classes and would come out to the event to show people how to ski joir.

Commissioners suggested having snow shoeing at the event. In the past, the trailer of youth skies had snow shoes as well. Tesser will look into whether the ski youth group still has snowshoes available for use.

D. OLLI Learning

Tesser discussed the new classes that will be at the Falcon Heights City Hall. By the city providing space, residents are able to take these classes for a small fee of \$5.00. Below are the classes this semester.

Understanding Criminal Justice in America

Most people understand the criminal justice system on an anecdotal basis and from what they see and read in the media. This limited contact causes confusion and raises questions. This course presents an overview of the components of the system, and examines the issues within system decision-making and their consequences. We will discuss the weaknesses in the criminal justice system and how they can be improved. Suggested text: Criminal Justice, by Joel Samaha.

Wednesday, Jan 23 - Feb 27 10:00-11:30

Looking Inside the Human body

The principles of modern medical imaging; i.e.; xray, computerized tomography (CT), nuclear medicine, ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) will be discussed. In addition, some basic principles of light, the physics of seeing, and suck devices as lasers and the digital TV will be covered. Finally, the safety of each modality and what each sees best will be discussed. Notes will be provided by email

Wednesday, Jan 23 - Feb 27 12:30-2:00

Minnesota Railroads -- East and West

The story of Minnesota railroads from the earliest days as lines approached from the east, with much hope and little accomplished, to railroads that first began operating in the 1860s, completion of lines to the Pacific, and recent history including first-class passenger service; women as passengers and as railroad workers, and today's railroads from the largest merged lines to smaller regional and local operations.

John Wickre, former Minnesota Historical Society manuscripts cataloger, docent at the Jackson Street Roundhouse, and editor of the museum's journal.

Wednesday, Jan 23 - Feb 27 2:15-3:45

Volunteering Abroad

Have it both ways! Travel to a new and interesting part of the world and do good at the same time. Volunteers and/or organization representatives will share information about some of the numerous opportunities for satisfying your wanderlust while volunteering for a humanitarian cause.

5. Noxious Weed Planning

Mayor Pete Lindstrom asked Tesser to have the Parks Commission draft a noxious weed plan that should incorporate sustainable initiatives to eliminate weeds from the parks such as: thistles and buckthorns. Tesser brought forward different noxious weed plans and also how the DNR handles noxious weeds. Commissioners discussed what exactly they should be drafting. Tesser brought up that she would like to see a section on Volunteering/Outreach and that she has begun to talk to the Girl Scouts about cleaning up Curtiss Field on a yearly basis in exchange for renting our Council Chambers and Community Park facility. Chair Weber-Sanders discussed her thoughts on the Environment Commission being involved in the planning. Commissioners also wanted to know what was done currently in eliminating/managing weeds. Pittman was absent and Tesser did not know the process. Commissioners also thought coming up with goals would be helpful as a starting point. The commission concluded that they would table the discussion until Pittman returns at the next meeting.

6. Curtiss Field Park Time Closure and Sign Change

Tesser was contacted by a resident who lives adjacent to Curtiss Field about a variety of complaints, one being that she would like the park to be closed earlier than 10:00pm. The resident alleges that kids are at the park very late and are up to no good. The resident thinks closing the park earlier may help decrease this behavior. Commissioners were concerned about the cost of sign replacement and if the hours should be changed based on one person's complaint. Tesser will ask the SAPD to pull all police reports from Curtiss Field from the last couple of years and will also do a survey of other cities park closure times.

7. Park Buildings Handicapped Accessibility Requirements

Chair Weber-Sanders researched handicapped accessibility requirements (ADA) for park buildings. She concluded that the park buildings are not in compliance to the ADA regulation. Tesser looked at the ADA regulations and into the age of each park building and found that the city is grandfathered in because their buildings were built in 1991. According to the ADA, the city does not have to alter their buildings to comply unless a replacement is needed. Tesser will discuss this with Tim Pittman and City Administrator Fischer so they are aware of the ADA requirements if any future work is required.

8. Public Works Report:-Tim Pittman Pittman was absent.

Next meeting dates: Monday, December 10th
Monday, January 14th