

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

MEETING MINUTES

City Hall

Monday, August 12th

6:30 p.m.

X Melissa Weber-Sanders, Chair

X Christina Erickson

X Gordon Strom

ab Mary Hannon Jacobson

ab Dave Thomas

X Liz Asmus

X Staff Michelle Tesser

X Staff Tim Pittman

ab Council Liaison Chuck Long

1. Call to order
2. Approval of July 8th meeting minutes
3. Serena Jones-White resignation from Commission

Serena Jones-White had to resign because of her growing family and commitments. She will miss the thoughtful discussion that takes place and appreciated the opportunity to serve.

4. Park Playground Safety Priority List - Gordon Strom

Gordon reviewed the list he compiled for the commission. In looking at the overall audit he felt there is no real danger with the playground equipment. Gordon will reformat the list to include price costs. Tim Pittman will resolve what he can in-house and will let the Commission know at the next meeting. Commissioners were able to talk briefly before the public forum began about solutions to the equipment compliance such as adding a longer piece to the slide to make it longer and replacing the monkey bars at Curtiss Field to comply with the spacing requirements. Commissioners will discuss the list at more length at the October meeting since the next meeting will be at Grove Park. Melissa thanked Gordon for all his work in putting the list together.

**** Tesser was unable to discuss the below agenda items at the commission meeting due to time constraints with the public forum starting at 7:00pm and not ending until 8:30pm. Below is what she planned to discuss.**

5. Recap on Summer Events

- Ice Cream Social
The event received \$1,000 in revenue which is similar to what was earned last year. Although the forecast said rain, the weather held out for the event. We ran out of vanilla ice cream buckets at 7pm and had to buy five more. The ice cream cookie sundae was the biggest hit. The dunk tank line was larger this year than the bouncy castles. Tesser received great compliments on the band. It was the same band as last year with a new lead singer. Overall, the event went very well and staff was pleased.
- Parent's Night Out
36 kids signed up for the Parents Night out. It was quite busy for the staff. The kids had a blast and parents have raved to Tesser about how great it was. They've asked when there will be another one. The event included pizza for the kids. The movie Madagascar 3 was played at the end of the event and really helped calm down the kids. The event's revenue was approximately \$10 because of staff and food cost but the point was not to make a profit but to do something special for Falcon heights' camp kids.

6. Update on Fall Programming

Fall soccer and tennis registrations are thriving. Yoga and TKD are maintaining good numbers. Tesser will be sending flyers to schools regarding fall programs. Tesser is still working on the Adult Exercise programs that will be new this year (zumba, boot camp and sampler class). Details should be finalized in September.

Osher Life Time Learning Institute (Olli) has signed up for four fall class offerings at Falcon Heights City Hall: Genes, the Blueprints for Life: How Genes Determine our Structure, Functions, and Behavior; Mammals: Adaptations, Diversity, Ecology; Namibia: Challenges and Opportunities; Special: Here It Comes—the Affordable Care Act. Tesser continues to receive registrations from residents for OLLI classes. It is getting more popular as people find out that you don't have to be an OLLI member to attend classes at Falcon Heights City Hall if you're a resident and the cost is only \$5.00.

7. Public Works Report:-Tim Pittman

8. Open Forum @7:00pm

- See separate minutes of the public forum

9. Curtiss Field Park Tour

10. New Business

1-Tesser received a petition from the Grove to reconsider placing a little lending library in the Grove Park. There were 17 signatures from different properties and 28 signatures for residents.

2-The final results of the Community Garden poll from Survey Monkey is 14 Yes and 4 No's. I had three additional emails from gardeners who did not want to partake in the Survey Monkey poll. The total survey result of 15 Yes, 5 No, 3 D/C and 1 who wanted us to fix the fence we currently have.

Tesser provided the survey results to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Tesser has not finalized funding for the garden fence although a portion can come out of the Community Garden revenue budget. City Administrator, Bart Fischer would like some of the fence to come out of the \$140,000 from Hermes Site Park Dedication fee. Tesser has discussed this with Bart that the playground and other equipment (possible new adjustable basketball hoops) costs may take a large portion of the amount so funding will be up in the air until playground and other equipment are replaced. Tesser will continue to communicate with community gardeners as to when the installation will be done and any other pertinent details.

Next meeting dates: Monday, September 9th Grove Park @Basketball Courts