

# MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 4, 2016

6:30 p.m.

City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave.

City of Falcon Heights  
Parks & Recreation Commission

## 1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:32pm.

	Attendance	AB=absent
	Shawn Hubert	Chairperson
	Tim Sandvik	Staff
	Tim Pittman	Staff
	Randy Gustafson	Council Liaison
	Mary Hannon Jacobson	Co-Secretary
	Ron Eischen	Co-Secretary
AB	Dave Thomas	
	Gordon Strom	
	Ben Reichelt	
	Walt Dunlap	

## 2. Approval of Feb, 2016 meeting minutes

The meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

## 3. Low Waste Events

Tim Sandvik began the discussion with a presentation of what no-waste/low-waste events are, what Ramsey County will provide for these types of events, how these types of events benefit the environment/community and why the city of Falcon Heights wants to implement them when possible for city sponsored events or events at one of our parks. The city has asked the Parks and Rec Commission and Environment Commission to identify initial goals and guidelines for this pilot program, so Tim will be working with Paul Moretto, Staff Liaison to the Environment Commission, on creating these. This year will be a "benchmark" year to compare future no waste/low waste events to and explore other possibilities.

Tim asked the commission for ideas on how to make our Ice Cream Social/Movie in the Park event (July 21<sup>st</sup>) a low waste event. Some of the ideas offered were:

1. Using organic utensils. Pro: Compostable/No Waste; Con: Additional cost
2. Solar Power trailer. Tim will do further research into this.
3. Using reusable containers: bowls/silverware, etc.

4. Use sugar cones/waffle cones/etc. for Ice Cream, and use bulk size ice cream. Notify people ahead of time to bring their own bowls/spoons if desired.
5. Provide water filling stations and notify people ahead of time to bring their own water bottles.
6. Use Dry Erase boards and Easels for signs (instead of paper/cardboard.)

Volunteers for this event are mostly the Lions club members who staff the ice cream portion. City Staff and P&R commissioners are often volunteers as well. Where else might we find volunteers?

1. Highschool and middle school clubs and organizations
2. Boy/Girl Scouts
3. Job Corps (who also participated in the KaBoom! build)

The Movie in the Park (after the Ice Cream Social) will have popcorn available, but will be provided in recyclable paper bags.

Promotion of the event will start in May/June for the July event.

#### **4. Update on Larpenteur Ave Median**

Tim Pittman: Clarified w/Sack today about his expectations from the P&R commission re: the Larpenteur Median, and that at this time he just wants the commission kept up-to-date on the status. Tim talked w/Andy (city forester) and they haven't come up w/a solution to the medians yet. W/in the next 2 weeks, city staff will be cleaning dead stuff out of the medians, and afterwards they hope to have some solutions/options to evaluate. Whichever route they take, the solution needs to require a lot less maintenance (for safety issues and cost considerations).

#### **5. Sidewalk Installation at Curtiss Field**

Tim Pittman: Roseville engineer said the sidewalk will be 84' long to keep the slope ADA compliant. MNDot got involved because they want a sidewalk along Snelling from Hoyt to Larpenteur for connectivity of the transit installations on Snelling. Falcon Heights is trying to get them to move their proposed sidewalk away from Snelling so that the heavy snow from Snelling does not cover it since the city doesn't have equipment to handle that type of snow. In addition, they are trying to stay away from the newly planted trees – though some may need to be moved. The city is hoping MNDot will compromise and only 1 sidewalk in that area will be created/maintained.

## **6. Update on Council Discussion Regarding Curtiss Field Recommendations**

Council Member Gustafson: Council looked at the recommendations the Park and Rec Commission submitted. The Council appreciates the well planned recommendations and the efforts the commission took to get input from the community. Council is encouraged by the cleanup and sidewalk completion at Curtiss Field.

The City Council requested more detail of what a proposed “building” would mean: purpose, how used, size, operations, etc. They would need this information to assign a budget to it. Everyone (in the city council) agrees bathroom facilities would be beneficial. How large would the bldg be vs the green space need? Council needs more data/specifics on the building (parking, green space, landscaping, etc all relies on the size/shape/use of the building.)

Council cannot bond for this building because it does not qualify for revenue bonds (so it must be budgeted for.) The City Council needs more detail and a better vision of this building to help sell the need for this building to the community. Other considerations: could the Curtiss bldg take over Community park populations/events while Community Park is undergoing renovation?

A recommendation was made to have a Park and Rec Meeting this summer at Curtiss field and invite the public to offer ideas/requests for this building, as well as give the commissioners an opportunity to review the space available for this building.

Commission will wait for more direction from council on what details are needed and when.

## **7. Programming and Special Events**

Tim Sandvik: All summer programming will be at Community Park this year, except for some programs at Commonwealth Terrace (CTC) (which are only available to CTC residents). Programming is based off of what was successful last year. Program participation is down... possibly due to kids joining traveling and club teams and not participating in the entry level programming which Falcon Heights offers. These same challenges are seen by our Roseville and St Paul neighbors and other cities in the metro/state.

The city is currently seeking and hiring staff for summer programming.

The Ice Skating season this year was short, but we had about 450 skaters. A comment was made re: the ice rinks at Curtiss Field and how well maintained they were this year.

As mentioned earlier, the Ice Cream Social is being combined with the Movie in the Park this year. Volunteers will be needed.

The 5K will be in September and volunteers are always needed. Date will be either 9/10 or 9/17.

## **8. Meeting Conclusion**

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

### **a. Summary of Decisions Made**

- i. N/A

### **b. Summary of Action Items**

- i. Tim Sandvik will be working with Paul Moretto on low-waste event goals and guidelines.

### **c. Next meeting date: Monday, May 2, 2016**

### **d. Submitted By: Mary Hannon Jacobson**