

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

AGENDA

City Hall

Monday, December 14th, 2015

6:30 p.m.

___ Gordon Strom	___ Mary Hannon Jacobson
___ Dave Thomas	___ Michael Breen
___ Ron Eischen	___ Shawn Hubert
___ Ben Reichelt	
___ Council Liaison - Chuck Long	
___ Council Member-Elect Gustafson	
___ Staff Sack Thongvanh	
___ Staff Tim Pittman	
___ Staff Tim Sandvik	

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of November 9th, 2015 meeting minutes
3. Discussion on Survey Results, Open House feedback
4. Discussion on ADA Compliance
5. Brief Discussion on upcoming issues for 2016 (Tim Sandik)
6. Other business
7. Adjourn

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, Nov 9, 2015

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 6:30pm.

	Attendance	X=present; AB=absent
X	Gordon Strom	Chairperson
X	Tim Sandvik	Staff
X	Tim Pittman	Staff
AB	Chuck Long	Council Liaison
X	Mary Hannon Jacobson	Co-Secretary
X	Ron Eischen	Co-Secretary
X	Sack Thongvanh	Staff
AB	Dave Thomas	
X	Michael Breen	
X	Shawn Hubert	
X	Ben Reichelt	

2. Approval of Oct 12, 2015 meeting minutes

The meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. Discussion on upcoming Open Houses, Survey

Tim Sandvik reviewed what was planned for the upcoming Curtiss Field Open House tonight. Sack was going to open the meeting with a review of a PowerPoint presentation talking about the last few years and changes to Curtiss Field, discuss why we are soliciting feedback from residents, how we got the current design, why we are reviewing it, etc. Then we'll ask for feedback from meeting attendees. On the tables, Tim laid out some near-to-scale layouts of Curtiss Field and some of the proposed amenities so that attendees could see how they'd fit in the small footprint of Curtiss Field.

Tim also announced that the online survey went live this afternoon and will be available through the end of the month (November 30th.) The city strongly encourages all residents to participate and Tim asked the P&R Commission to get the word out any way they can. The 2nd Curtiss Field Open House is scheduled for November 18th from 5:30pm-6:30pm (before the city council meeting.)

Once all feedback is received (from the surveys, open houses, emails, etc.) the staff will organize that data and bring it to the December P&R meeting for review/discussion. The commission will reconvene in January and make decide on the recommendations they will make to city council.

Question asked: Can the commissioners get the survey results before the December meeting to review/consider in preparation? Tim said he would try to get a rudimentary version out beforehand.

4. Brief Discussion on upcoming Issues

a. Larpenteur Ave Medians

Sack Thongvanh began the discussion: The Larpenteur Avenue medians are currently unsightly and need upkeep, and are also considered a hazard. The city has received many phone calls from residents about this. There are many issues with the medians, much of which has to do with the median base – too much class 5 and not enough black dirt. The plants chosen might not be as salt friendly as needed. We need to reevaluate if we are going to maintain those plantings or do something different – looking at what Roseville has done as well. Sack would like P&R Commission to review these issues and come up with some recommendations for city council (the city is doing some research on medians and will give this information to them for review.)

Sack mentioned that Larpenteur Ave is a busy thoroughfare which many visitors/non residents will “label” as Falcon Heights. So... we want Larpenteur to be attractive and give a good impression, yet, be low maintenance. Additionally, with the new Bell Museum starting construction in 2016 (and finishing in 2018), there will be many more visitors to our area and addressing the issue sooner rather than later is vital.

Side note: Ramsey County and MN Dot will be changing the intersection of Larpenteur & Snelling Ave which may also affect plans for these medians.

b. Zero Waste Events

Sack also discussed the Zero Waste initiative that has been brought up to the city in regards to sustainability and resiliency. Zero Waste events produce no waste or minimal waste. Other committees will be looking at elements of this initiative but Sack asked the P&R Commission to consider what events we could attempt a Zero Waste Event (ie: Ice Cream Social?) and how to work together with other commissions to make this happen.

Sack informed the P&R Commission that at the city council retreat in February/March, he is going to be asking the council to determine their priorities for the next few years, and to determine what direction they would like to take the city so that they can manage and prioritize new topics and issues as they arise over the years. Currently, issues/topics are handled individually as they are come up without an overall plan or prioritization by the council.

5. New Business

No new business was discussed.

6. Meeting Conclusion

Meeting adjourned at 7pm (followed by the Curtiss Field Open House #1)

a. Summary of Decisions Made

- i. No decisions made during this meeting.

b. Summary of Action Items

- i. No action items came from this meeting.

c. Next meeting date: Monday, December 12, 2015

d. Submitted By: Mary Hannon Jacobson