

Minutes

City of Falcon Heights, Park and Recreation Commission Meeting
January 9, 2012
6:30PM
City Hall

Meeting Chair: Melissa Weber-Sanders

Minutes By: Michelle Tesser

Present members: Serena Jones-White, Matthew Waite (absent), Lonetta Hanson, Tom Keene (absent)

Youth member: Luke Mielke

Staff: Michelle Tesser, Tim Pittman

Council Liaison: Keith Gosline

1. Meeting called to order 6:33 PM

2. Tobacco Free Parks discussion

Derek Larsen, Program Coordinator for Tobacco Free Parks, Maira Simonson and Kathie Froemming, 6th grade elementary school teachers from FHE attended the commission meeting. Tesser discussed the vision of involving the youth in the implementation of the tobacco free parks policy. Larsen discussed that his organization would provide classroom education to the 6th graders. Simonson and Froemming discussed that they would like to include this practical and relevant project as part of their health curriculum. Larsen, Simonson and Froemming agreed to start educating youth on tobacco, including second-hand smoke and why a tobacco free park is important to have in the city. The curriculum will begin in March/April and the students will present to the council sometime in May or June. Larsen discussed having the kids collect cigarette butts from all Falcon Heights' parks for a visual effect at the council meeting. Larsen would like to have a booth at the Ice Cream Social stationed with kids that participated in the tobacco free parks policy. Larsen will keep in contact with Tesser during the educational period and communicate when the kids will be ready to present the item in front of the council.

2. Approval of Minutes December 13th

Minutes were unanimously approved. Lonetta/Weber

3. Movie in the Park

Sponsorship will again come from the Source. Movie selection does not have to be specifically comic related per owner. Tesser will offer camping the same night as an option either this year or next year depending on amount of time to plan. Date: TBA (last year July 13th). Tesser is contemplating scheduling the movie for a Friday night in June.

4. Winter Events

Skating in the Park January 16th 10am-2pm cancelled. Unusually warm temps have made it impossible for ice to form although PW staff did try to flood last week. We need 5-7 days of 20 degrees or below to form the necessary base of ice.

Winterfest – (may have to cancel). Deadline to cancel Jan 23rd. We need a foot of snow for dog's to pull sled around park according to dog owner. Dog owner hasn't been able to pull dogs this year because of the weather. We need at least 3-4 inches to cross country ski and if high temps continue we can't form ice for the rink.

No winter activities would mean low attendance but we would still have the high cost associated with coordinating the event.

5. Piano at Community Park

Mayor Lindstrom has asked the Parks Commission to look into having a piano at the Community Park. Tesser is looking into the non-profit organization Keys 4/4 Kids- <http://www.pianosonparade.com/> that will allow us to host a piano instead of owning a piano and having to care and maintain the piano. 4/4 Kids (non profit) would deliver, pick up and maintain (tune) the piano. Tesser has tried to connect with 4/4 kids but has had no response as of today's date.

6. Warming House/Rink Update

Tesser hired seven warming house attendants. Orientation was Wednesday, Dec 21st. The rinks were scheduled to open on Dec 23rd however, due to the warm temps the opening has been postponed until further notice.

7. Winter Break Adventure Camp overview

Both session went great. Nine kids in session 1 and 13 kids in session 2. Surveys that were returned have been very complimentary. Revenue was approximately \$200.00. Staff had to improvise with no snow but parents were very understanding about the change. We rented a snow cone machine which the kids absolutely loved.

8. Staff Reports:

➤ **Public Works Update**

- Plowing/sidewalks
- Maintaining equipment
- Fire Department projects

9. New Business

Next meeting: Monday, February 13, 2012 at 6:30p.m.

10. Adjournment – 7:15pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michelle Tesser. If there are any corrections or additions, please contact Michelle Tesser by phone at 651-792-7617 or by email at Michelle.tesser@falconheights.org