

October 2014 Meeting Minutes

October 08, 2014
Hayden Heights Recreation Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Bishop, Erick Goodlow, Dave Haley, Dan Marckel, John Mountain, Betsy Mowry-Voss, Emily Shively, Andy Trcka, Salina Vang

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Gwen Peterson, Clare Cloyd, Gina Stokes

GUESTS: Shirley Erstad, Kiara Zebott, Jakela Green, Elliott Hawkins, Derrick Van Blaircom, Nashaun Shackleton

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Trcka at 6:30 p.m.
- b. Commissioner Bishop moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Haley seconded the motion. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with two commissioners absent.
- c. A motion to approve the September 2014 minutes was made by Commissioner Shively and seconded by Commissioner Goodlow. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with two commissioners absent.

2. DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

a. Arlington Hills Community Center- Gina Stokes

Gina Stokes, Recreation Director at Arlington Hills Community Center (AHCC), presented on the status of the center since its opening on May 22. Five teenagers that utilize the space frequently discussed what they enjoy at AHCC and how it has helped enhance their community. Specifically they mentioned that they like the fact that they can trust the staff and that there are a lot of ways they can choose to spend their time at the center. Gina discussed the joint use facility model and how it helps to facilitate the ability to provide something to every person that comes through the door.

Gina also gave a description of the Createch space, which is a teen only area that provides access to the latest technology and encourages them to use the space as they would like. She touched on the small but fun concepts such as moveable furniture within the space so that they teens can rearrange and design the room as needed for the activities they are doing that day as well as a wall that is made completely of dry erase board. The teens that were present said they really enjoyed the space and felt it facilitated an area where they could be themselves.

Overall, she said things are going well and she expects to see more programming and community collaboration now that they are getting settled into the new space.



3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gwen Peterson presented the Director's Report for this meeting and discussed the following topics:

- Como Lakeside Pavilion proposal deadline is Thursday 10/09 and the proposals will be graded by an evaluation team from 10/10- 10/12. She said 16 interested vendors represented by about 25 people attended a facility walkthrough in September.
- Recreation Services Restructure Model details have been communicated to the City Council and the new model is set to commence in November.
- Parks representatives met with the City Council to present the 2015 proposed budget earlier in the month.
- CHS Field (Lowertown Ballpark) sod installation began 10/08 and more than 95,000 square feet of sod is set to be installed by Friday.
- Recreation Centers are ending summer programming and beginning to prepare for winter. Maintenance staff will begin working on this transition by the end of the month.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

a. Como Regional Park Committee – Commissioner Marckel

Commissioner Marckel noted that the committee discussed the Como Lakeside Pavilion RFP and began discussions on the transportation money that Como received from the bonding bill and how they think it can be best utilized.

b. Blooming Saint Paul – Commissioner Mountain

No update.

c. Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission – Commissioner Treka

No update.

d. Trees Advisory Committee – Commissioner Goodlow

Commissioner Goodlow noted that the committee had discussions about the future plans for EAB management. He also mentioned that they discussed buckthorn removal and that it is a helpful activity for volunteer groups to consider.

e. Community Engagement Reports

f. Other Reports

Commissioner Mowry-Voss gave an update from the first Dickerman Park Design Advisory Committee meeting. She mentioned that the committee has a good balance of representation and will update more at the next meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Bishop and seconded by Commissioner Goodlow. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.