



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2020

Webex



I. Call Meeting to Order

President Crosby called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Amanda Crosby, Tjaard Breeuwer, David Demmer, Jill Joyce, Jenny Peterson, Noah Kramer, Barb Darland

Not Present: Britt Rohrbaugh, City Council Liaison – Arik Forsman, David Kirby (ISD 709 School Board Liaison), and Frank Jewell (St. Louis County Board Liaison).

III. Approval of June 10 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Breeuwer motioned for approval of the June 10 meeting minutes; second by Commissioner Peterson. Unanimously approved.

IV. Presentations

A. COVID-19 Parks and Recreation Updates (Informational) Jess Peterson, Manager

B. Memorial Bench Program (For Future Action) Cheryl Skaffe, Operations Coordinator

Skaffe provided an overview of the past memorial bench program, and existing Angel of Hope memorial program, which is dedicated to children of all ages. Currently, the City hosts 187 benches within our parks, and capacity issues do not allow for additional benches at this time. The city cannot keep up with high demand for memorial elements due to little to no established policy or procedure to administer program, limited staff capacity, and replacement/maintenance expectations not clearly defined.

Jessica Peterson recommended the Commission to include language within Chapter 35 of the City Code to formalize the current memorial program.

Commissioner Darland questioned if there is potential to grow the bench program and if there is a current maintenance budget for the benches. Jessica Peterson indicated there is not capacity at this time to expand or continue intake of memorial benches.

Commissioner Demmer stated he supports that the City Code be amended, but should include language that it doesn't fully end the program in the event we can revisit intake of benches in the future.

Jessica Peterson stated draft language will be created and will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Breeuwer indicated the administrative details do not need to be reflected in the City Code addition.

V. Commissioner Committees

Administrative (E-Board) -meeting date: Thursday, July 23 at noon via Webex

Amanda Crosby, Tjaard Breeuwer [Jess Peterson, Alicia Watts, Jessica Schoonover, Jim Filby Williams]

Public Golf Committee –cancelled until further notice. David Demmer, Jenny Peterson, Noah Kramer [Jess Peterson, Jessica Schoonover, Jim Filby Williams]



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2020
Webex



VI. Commissioner & Liaison Reports

VII. New Business

A. Spirit Mountain Task Force (Future Action Requested) Jessica Peterson, Manager

Commissioner Jenny Peterson shared the Public Golf Committee should meet as soon as possible.

Commissioner Kramer shared interest to serve on the Spirit Mountain Task Force. Recommendation will move forward for Mayor Larson's approval.

Commissioner Demmer questioned why this task force is convening when the Public Golf Committee has not. Jessica Peterson indicated the extensive research has already begun for golf with a hired consultant to assess both golf courses, which included surveys and intensive budget analysis. Shared Spirit Mountain has not received this analysis at this time, and this is prioritized by the Mayors Office. Indicated Parks and Recreation has faced major staff reductions from the pandemic, and we do not have the capacity at this time.

Commissioner Demmer questioned if the deadline for golf could be extended.

Commissioner Breeuwer questioned if the commission could make a motion to change the deadline of golf. Jessica Peterson indicated this could be discussed at the next E-Board Meeting.

VIII. Old Business

XIII. Division Report

Demmer questioned if the Lincoln Park project moving forward is the same as what the Parks and Recreation Commission voted on in the past.

Public Comment

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

XIV. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 10 via Webex