

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
LITTLE CANADA, MINNESOTA**

AUGUST 4, 2022

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting of the City Council of Little Canada, Minnesota was convened on the 4th day of August 2022 in the Council Chambers of the City Center located at 515 Little Canada Road in said City.

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the following members of the Parks & Recreation Commission were present at roll call:

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION: Hipp (arrived at 6:36 p.m.), Miller, Schletty, Chu, and Abruzzese.

ABSENT: Horwath and Mui

ALSO PRESENT: Parks & Rec/Community Services Director Bryce Shearen, and Recreation Coordinator Sierra Hietala.

MINUTES

Commissioner Schletty made a motion to approve the July 7, 2022, Parks & Recreation Commission minutes as submitted. Commissioner Abruzzese seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

PARKS AND RECREATION MISSION STATEMENT

Chair Miller read the parks and recreation mission statement.

OLD BUSINESS: RONDEAU PARK UPDATE

The Parks & Rec Director provided a brief update on the work at Rondeau Park noting that the community build was a fantastic success and reviewed the items that have been completed and that still need to be completed. He stated that staff is looking to hold a ribbon-cutting event before the regular September meeting, perhaps around 5 p.m.

Commissioner Schletty commented that he participated in both days of the community build and agreed that there was great community engagement, even with the hot weather. He stated that there were residents from the neighborhood and the greater community. He thanked all the residents and the sponsors that participated in the event. He also thanked the staff and the playground company for their hard work.

Commissioner Hipp agreed that the staff did an excellent job filling in to assist.

**MINUTES
PARKS & REC COMMISSION
AUGUST 4, 2022**

Commissioner Chu stated that she talked to several people that are interested in being engaged after this opportunity. She stated that the Commission should keep that in mind, how people can continue to be engaged. She commented that there did not seem to be as much direction for volunteers in this build compared to the last. She agreed that they were very hot days. She thanked the staff for all of their work and for assisting in the build.

Chair Miller also thanked the committee members and City staff. He commented that if a similar build is done, perhaps some earlier preparation work is done to assemble smaller pieces with the installation of the larger pieces done in the community build.

Commissioner Chu noted that when working on smaller pieces, it is sometimes difficult to understand where that piece will go. She noted that perhaps for future builds it would be helpful to have images available of the finished product to provide that understanding.

Commissioner Abruzzese commented that she would enjoy the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Commissioner Chu suggested inviting the volunteers to the ribbon-cutting.

The Parks & Rec Director confirmed that volunteers would be included in the list of those that would be invited, as well as the neighborhood, greater community, members of the City Council, etc. He confirmed the date of the ribbon cutting to be September 1st at 5:00 p.m.

The Recreation Coordinator thanked everyone from the Commission for participating in the event.

OLD BUSINESS: GERVAIS MILL ENTRANCE UPDATE

The Parks & Rec Director commented that the City Council awarded the bid for the project. He stated that the majority of the project should be completed by October of this year, although some additional restoration and planting work may be completed in the spring.

Chair Miller asked if the design is available on the website.

The Parks & Rec Director replied that the design is not available on the website as was based on input from multiple engineers and therefore does not provide the greatest interpretation of what the project will be.

Chair Miller commented that it would be nice to have information available to residents on what the completed project will look like.

Commissioner Chu commented that she is excited to see the project moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS: RECREATION COORDINATOR UPDATE

**MINUTES
PARKS & REC COMMISSION
AUGUST 4, 2022**

The Recreation Coordinator highlighted recent events including the Ice Cream Social and Movies in the Park which had great attendance. She also reviewed upcoming events including Movies in the Park, the farmers market, and upcoming programming activities for youth and adults.

The Parks & Rec Director commended the Recreation Coordinator for her efforts in allowing the farmers market to accept SNAP. He recognized that is something the City has wanted for many years, and she made it happen. He also recognized the difficulty in planning for community events and the great job the Recreation Coordinator does in gaining participation and properly planning for the events.

The Commission also thanked the Recreation Coordinator for the great job she has done in the position.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Chu stated that she noticed the Gervais Mill entrance when coming from Edgerton there are two picnic tables but no trash receptacle. She stated that perhaps a trash bin could be placed closer to those tables.

Commissioner Hipp commented that a lot of trees have fallen on paths that have been cleared. She commented that it was great to see people enjoying the free community events. She asked if it would be valuable to have a booth with the commissioners each year at Canadian Days in order to continue community engagement and advertise events in the parks.

The Parks & Rec Director commented that he could support that concept if there is interest from the Commission in fully staffing the booth.

UPDATES

The Parks & Rec Director provided an update on the process to solicit youth commission members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.