

**City of Fridley
Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting**

AGENDA

DATE: August 1, 2016

LOCATION: Fridley Municipal Center – Meeting Room 1

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF: June 6, 2016

APPROVE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA: August 1, 2016

1. STAFF REPORT

- a. Program Update
- b. Park Maintenance Report
- c. Springbrook Nature Center Report
- d. Springbrook Interpretive Building Grand Opening
- e. Springbrook Nature Center Phase 2 Projects

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Request to Remove Tree at Innsbruck Park
- b. Softball Tournament Request – Spring Lake Park Softball
- c. 2016-2017 Adult Winter Athletic Fees

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/STAFF REPORTS:

4. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: September 12, 2016 at the Fridley Municipal Center Meeting Room 1.

Springbrook Nature Center

Springbrook hosted an employee picnic in July to show other City staff what the facility looks like – as well as socialize over a BBQ lunch.

Redeemer Lutheran Church volunteers helped with trail clean-up, trimming branches, and Buckthorn removal.

On July 24th, seven members of the William Nee family celebrated the memory the former mayor. A plaque was placed on a boulder in front of the nature center honoring him.

Siah St. Clair, assisted by someone from the Dragonfly Association, hiked and collected 11 species of dragonflies. After collecting, a PowerPoint presentation was given to 12 attendees to further their knowledge of dragonflies.

Gramp Camp was held in July. There were many fun activities for the 30 who participated.

Docent (volunteer) training has begun. We are looking for volunteers who are interested in teaching and interacting with the public. We have four educational kits that Docents can use to assist in their teaching: Mammals, pond studies, fort building, and birds. Docents can sign up as often as they wish, but no less than four hours per month.

Camps have been going well with 30 – 40 kids in each camp.

Our prairie was planted with plants from Morning Sky Nursery with the help of six adult volunteers and older campers.

Recreation

Approximately 225 participants had a blast at the annual Wet & Wild event. Activities included: slip n' slide, pitch burst, minnow races, water games, water ball launcher and a spray down from the fire truck!

We teamed up with the Police Department once again for the annual Safety Camp program which teaches kids safety related to a variety of topics including fire, seat belts, animals, electricity, and more! We had 125 attend this 2-day camp.



Recreation (cont)

Attendance at the ROCKS program is GREAT! Some weeks we've had between 90 – 100 kids participate. The Adventures of Tom and Huck camp was held in partnership with Anoka County Parks and Recreation. We had 14 participants; all enjoyed fishing, canoeing, archer, fire building and the highlight was a visit from Tom and Huck!

Summer softball leagues are coming to an end and registration for the fall leagues has begun.

49er Days was June 16 – 18 and kept Recreation staff very busy. Margo and staff hosted Kids Day on Saturday; Cleve attempted to host a Teen Dance on Friday evening, but unfortunately the rain cancelled that new event. Cleve also had the St. Paul Pioneers football team do a football camp on Saturday; all while Sue coordinated the bands for both nights, the inflatables, volunteers, and the spectacular fireworks display on Saturday night!

A total of 7,326 attended the ZONE during the 2016-2017 school year.

Senior Program

The DNR contacted the Senior Program to recruit volunteers for the Tree Program in the city.

The June Taste of Nordic Walking program had eight participants. The latest total on those trained is 62. We also have a regular Nordic Walking group that meets to walk every Wednesday morning.

Senior Program (cont.)

Connie is working with a senior resident in need of A Lions Share to replace her air conditioner. She is very low income with multiple health concerns. A Lions Share is an assistance program for low income seniors in need of home repair. The Lions fund this project with \$5,000 annually.

We had 80 participate in the 49er Days card tournaments.

Connie met with a representative from Golden Living to discuss community programming. They have re-committed to sponsor the Senior Program in 2016. This makes 18 sponsors for the Senior Program filling our sponsor's brochure rack to capacity for the first time!

The new Memory class has been busy writing memory wisdom statements which are now on display at the Senior Center. Other activities included a Forget Me Not Spot, a Lifetime Master Binder, and checklists for various activities.



A copy of the Park Maintenance report will be available at the meeting.



Springbrook Nature Center
Mike Maher, Springbrook Nature Center Director
Monthly Report to Fridley Parks and Recreation Commission
July/August 2016

- A grand opening for the new interpretive center is being held on July 30th from 1-4 pm. The free event will feature building and trail tours, refreshments, the City of Fridley Band, a program to thank and recognize contributors and much more.
- Construction of the new nature center building is wrapping up. Current work includes landscaping, setting up the security system, sealing of tile, installation of exhibits and touch up painting.
- A \$7,500 grant has been received from the Excel Energy Foundation for equipment to expand our school field trip curriculum.
- Summer camp is going very well this year. Our staff has done a wonderful job of being flexible as construction activities have been ongoing. We expect camp revenues to exceed \$53,000 this year. Revenues have doubled since 2013 and we are seeing many happy, returning families participating in the program.
- Staff continues to work closely with the development task force to identify grant opportunities, promote fundraising and contact local businesses.
 - The Fridley Lions committed a final gift of \$100K to finish a \$250K sponsorship of a community amphitheater
 - Financial One Credit Union has pledged a gift of \$50K and will sponsor a new entrance sign for the park with an electronic message board
 - RAO Manufacturing has pledged an additional gift of \$10K
 - To date, we have had about 100 pavers installed in the building entryway, 11 sponsored benches that have or will be installed and six memorial trees.
- The nature center staff is finalizing policy recommendations on building rentals expects to present them to the Commission at the September meeting.
- Plans for an amphitheater and nature-based play are nearing completion and we expect to release bid documents late this summer for work to begin and be completed for these features to open summer 2017



Grand Opening Celebration

Saturday, July 30

Formal Ceremony at 1:00 p.m.
Ribbon-cutting and community celebration
to follow from 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Directions and Details: SpringbrookNatureCenter.org

**Ice Cream!
Tours!
Music!**



1e Springbrook Nature Center Phase 2 Projects

As the new and remodeled Interpretive Building at Springbrook Nature Center (referred to as Phase 1 of the SPRING project) is completed, we will be turning attention to Phase 2 of the project. Phase 2 will involve three major components; an amphitheater, a nature based play area, and a new open air picnic pavilion.

The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation has been fundraising and has the dollars in hand to move ahead with the amphitheater and play area. We expect to get bids on these two projects in late August and potentially start construction this fall. Expected completion for these two projects would be in the Spring of 2017.

Fundraising efforts will continue for support of the new picnic pavilion. No time line has been established at this point for construction of the pavilion.

2a Request To Remove Tree At Innsbruck Park

Attached is a letter from residents at 5821 Arthur Street NE, requesting permission to cut down a tree in Innsbruck Park that is near their home. City staff has looked at this tree, has determined it is a healthy tree and would not recommend cutting it down. The City of Fridley is working toward becoming a Tree City USA and is striving to keep healthy trees throughout our community wherever possible. I have included a picture of the tree, with the house just behind it. It would be helpful to have a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission on this request. Please let me know if you would like to have any additional information.



To

Jack Kirk
The Director of Park and Recreation Department
Anoka County

Dear Sir ,

I am submitting this written request for permission to cut the tall tree in front right side of my house as I was told by personnel at your office.

Myself and my family moved to this house end of 2013. We really like our new house and there are many potentials for this house. It is close to city Park and also our neighbors are great people. Our kids go to Ramsey county school but we live here because we love this house. Every time when there is strong wind, it is a nightmare for us and especially for me and my husband. We lose out sleep with concern over this tree falling over our house. The tree swings so viciously. Since this tree is so tall it scares me that this tree will fall and lead to injury of my three children since their bedroom is directly by this tree. We move the children to other side of house in the middle of the night.

Personal at your office told me that this kind of tree live long and they are strong and healthy tree. We love that tree and it is lot of money to cut the tree and if we don't have so much concern over our safety we wouldn't think out spending \$6000. We will plant another tree of your recommendation. Thank you so much for looking into this issue and I look forward to hear from you soon with a positive response.

Sincerely,

Palden Bhakdo &
Kalden Khangkyi
5821 Arthur St. NE
Fridley, MN 55432
651-468-8660(cell)
651-333-4727(home)



City of Fridley

6431 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432

Phone: 763-572-3570
FAX: 763-571-1287

2b.

Recreation & Natural Resource Department

SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT APPLICATION FORM

Deadlines:

Non Profit City of Fridley Organization.....December 15th

Other Fridley Organization.....January 15th

TOURNAMENT NAME: MMFL State Qualifier State Tourney SPONSOR: Spring Lake Park Softball
 TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Lori Lightsey PHONE: H) 651-483-1673 W) _____
 ADDRESS: 48 1100 81st Ave NE Spring Lake Park 1 55432
 (street) (city) (zip)
 TOURNAMENT DATE(S): 9/17/14 9/24/14 TAX EXEMPT # (if applicable): 81-0991449

All fees for the tournament shall be paid in full one month prior to tournament date (rental & cleanup deposit). If the tournament sponsor withdraws this application or the tournament is cancelled after approval by the Parks and Recreation Commission, the facility fee will be refundable, minus \$100 plus a \$50 administrative charge. NOTE: One fourth (1/4) of the facility fee is to be submitted with application. Make check payable to "City of Fridley".

FACILITY FEES:

Fees listed do not include tax. Please check appropriate box(es);

Weekend

Non-Profit City of Fridley Organization \$1,000
 Other Fridley Organization \$1,400

One Day

Non-Profit City of Fridley Organization \$500/tournament \$500
 Other Fridley Organization \$700

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Groups wishing to bring special items such as canopy tents, catering facilities, P.A. systems, etc., must request authorization when reserving the facility.

Yes, I would like to request authorization for: _____

EQUIPMENT FEES:

The City will provide bases, field drags, rakes, hose and nozzle, chalker and 12 bags of chalk, 1 case of toilet tissue (96 count), and 8 plastic bags per garbage barrel. For quantities used beyond those listed the following fees will incur and be charged to your organization:

Chalk \$5.50 per bag
 Terra Green \$8.50 per bag

CLEAN-UP DEPOSIT

A \$200 clean-up deposit is required one month prior to the tournament date to ensure facilities are cleaned up after the event. The \$200 deposit will be returned after clearance inspection of the facilities by the Park Supervisor. (NOTE: This is a separate fee from the Facility Fee and must be submitted as certified funds made payable to "City of Fridley".)

CONCESSION STAND

Tournament sponsor must contact the Anoka County Health Department to obtain a food permit to operate the concession stand at all tournaments. This food permit must be displayed at the concession stand during the tournament.

Please check if concession stand is to be used.

Memo

2c.

July 27, 2016

TO: Jack Kirk
Director

FR: Cleve McCoy
Program Supervisor

RE: 2016 - 2017 ADULT WINTER ATHLETIC LEAGUES

Listed below are the recommended fees for the Winter Athletic programs for the 2016/2017 season.

Leagues	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
Wed "D" Basketball	\$499	\$499	\$499	\$515	\$515
Thursday Fun Basketball	\$499	\$499	\$499	\$515	\$515
Co-Rec Volleyball	\$155	\$155	\$155	\$165	\$165
Co-Rec Broomball	\$260	\$265	\$265	\$265	\$265
Men's Broomball	\$260	\$265	\$265	\$265	\$265
Boot Hockey	\$299	\$305	\$305	\$305	\$305

I recommend retaining fees for Winter Athletic Leagues in 2016/2017. League rates for basketball and volleyball saw small increases last year that covered cost of operations. In comparison to neighboring cities we are in a competitive range that is comfortable for participating teams. Co-Rec Broomball, Broomball, and Boot Hockey should also stay the same for 2016/2017. Warmer temperatures last winter cut the season short, and I believe it's best to keep a reasonable price that doesn't deter teams from registering due to weather inconsistencies.