

**ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES FOR  
MARCH 2, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Carlson, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag, Kim, Lenhart, O'Brien, Stoner

**ABSENT:**

**STAFF:** Anderson, Brokke, Christensen, Johnson

**1) INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Hoag introduced the virtual Zoom format for the meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. State Law allows for an exception to in-person public meetings during pandemics to ensure the safety of commissioners, staff and the public. The public was still encouraged to participate in the meeting using the Zoom platform.

**2) ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Roll Call Commissioners:** Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Carlson, Dahlstrom, Kim, O'Brien, Hoag, and Stoner.

Chair Hoag called for public comment by members of the audience.

J. Doerfler, Speaking on behalf of Roseville Fastpitch Association; Commented that the field assignments and availability for Roseville Fastpitch over the last four years have been decreasing. This decrease has caused the Association to go to surrounding communities to ask for fields in order to support their 18 teams. Renting fields from surrounding communities was not a cost that the Association had anticipated. Ms. Doerfler acknowledged the many opportunities that the Association and city have to work together in order to solve the problem, including potentially looking at grant opportunities.

Commissioner Arneson offered full disclosure to the Commission that his daughter plays for Roseville Fastpitch. He added that as a "non-Commission member" but rather as a tax-payer it is hard to see so many adult teams using the fields and knowing that not many of the players are Roseville residents. He suggested that this be looked into as residents are paying taxes to support Parks and Recreation but are not having a strong voice that allows residents the ability to play on the fields that their taxes paid to support. He also added that he is not aware of Roseville Youth Baseball having the same issues. In conclusion, he noted that he is passionate about supporting women and youth sports and he supports looking into this.

Staff responded that there may have been a communication misunderstanding between the Association and staff. Staff also noted that they encourage all Associations to search for and utilize

fields from outside Roseville based upon numbers of Roseville residents and nonresidents playing in the program. There are finite resources for fields in Roseville and it is a balance to get field space for all of the teams who utilize them during the summer. Staff is committed to working through the situation with the Association.

Chair Hoag asked for the makeup of the Roseville Fastpitch Association. Ms. Doefler responded that it is all of School District 623. She added that the Association has reached out to the additional District 623 cities (Little Canada, Shoreview, Lauderdale, and Falcon Heights) for fields. However, the cities all want to charge money for field use while Roseville provides them free of charge.

Vice-Chair Dahlstrom disclosed that he is on the board of the Fastpitch Association. He shared that as the Association is relatively small they have moved away from renting fields from the surrounding cities to keep the costs down. In addition, he noted that the Association has concerns with some of the conditions of the fields in Roseville (balls making odd jumps, etc.).

If necessary, staff offered to follow up with surrounding cities that the Association has kids participating from to explain why Roseville provides fields free of charge and encourage them to provide resources to the Association as appropriate.

### 3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2, 2021 MEETING**

Vice-Chair Dahlstrom moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Baggenstoss seconds.

#### **Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Hoag, Lenhart, O'Brien and Stoner.

**Nays:** None.

**Abstain:** None.

### 4) **PARK DEDICATION – VICTORIA ST. N. AND ORCHARD LN./CO. RD. C2**

Staff provided a review of the Park Dedication process and options for the Commission. Staff next presented details on the specific proposal for a subdivision adjacent to Lake Owasso on Victoria St. N. at Orchard Ln. and Co. Rd. C2. The proposal includes 8 lots (5 new lots) on 9.13 acres.

This project would qualify for Park Dedication. The cash amount for the 5 additional lots/units would be (\$4,250 per additional lot). The land amount would be 10% of 9.13 acres or .913 acre. The developer has suggested that cash be accepted in lieu of land. A map was displayed that showed the lot locations relative to Lake Owasso and Victoria Street. This area is located in constellation D. There are no specific plans identified in the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan for parkland in this area.

The Development Team joined the call with the Commission. Eric Luth spoke for the developer stating that they did not envision the location having any park use as it is a tight area for the houses and they would prefer to pay cash in lieu of land. Duane noted that a bituminous trail will be added outside of the requirements for the development. As the Development Team has been working with Community Development it was relayed to them that the sidewalk would be added in the future so they have opted to locate the segment during the build.

Commissioner Stoner asked what the current public lake access is for Lake Owasso. Staff responded that there is access via Central Park North via Heinel Drive as well as the County entrances.

Commissioner Baggenstoss asked if the dock area will be a private park for the homeowners. The Developer confirmed and responded that it is a pad with a picnic table. The developer added that the majority of the area seen on the map by the dock is for storm water management and the remaining area is for trees that they are trying to save.

Commissioner Stoner remarked that the Developer is adding the bituminous trail and working to save trees which are both above what is required. He noted that the only land that may be beneficial would be an option for lake access. However, as there is one via Central Park North, Commissioner Stoner stated he would opt for cash in lieu of land.

Commissioner Lenhart motioned to recommend the acceptance of cash (\$21,250) to the City Council to satisfy the Park Dedication for Victoria St. N. and Orchard Ln./Co. Rd. C2. Seconded by Commissioner Arneson.

#### **Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Hoag, Lenhart, O'Brien and Stoner.

**Nays:** None.

**Abstain:** Heikkila.

#### **5) POCAHONTAS PARK NAME CONVERSATION**

Chair Hoag relayed to the group that he feels it may be time to move to the next step of "what and how" to change the name of the park.

Commissioner Arneson posed the question of if the name should be changed to honor the Indigenous People as others appear to move to more generic names for product and places.

Commissioner Baggenstoss stated that this is an opportunity to change the narrative for a forgotten voice. He continued that this is an opportunity for the Commission to be allies by utilizing the guidance that is laid out in the Narrative Framework document that was provided by staff and that he does not think the Commission should adopt a generic name.

Commissioner Lenhart agreed with Commissioner Baggenstoss and added that she feels this is an opportunity to help create a place to remind the residents of Roseville of the important history of those who came before European settlers, as well as creating current day connections for Indigenous residents or visitors. Also, Commission Lenhart added that she would like to understand the history of the land.

Youth Commissioner Kim agreed with Commissioner Baggenstoss stating that he feels the problem would be if the name did not come from the Native American community.

Commissioner Arneson clarified that his original thought or question came about in thinking of the Washington football team and how they may move forward with their renaming. He added that the Commission in no way needs to follow what they do with their renaming.

The Commission discussed how to move forward with the process.

Commissioner O'Brien stated that she personally favors honoring the Indigenous community with the renaming. However, she noted that the Commission needs to be prepared for a different answer if the whole community is asked or to even believe that the Indigenous community will only have one answer when asked. Therefore, the Commission will need to decide the Indigenous community's voice by determining who you ask, how you ask and who you listen to.

Commissioner Arneson suggested that the Commission create a set of questions that a few Commission representatives can use to reach out to Indigenous community members to ask them for their responses in order to gain additional insight for the Commission.

Staff agreed to pull together questions that Commissioners submit for a subsequent meeting. Also, staff asked for suggestions or feedback on a short article on the work the Commission has been doing with the Pocahontas Park name for the May Roseville Newsletter. The Commission did not have any suggested adjustments to the newsletter article.

The Commission worked to clarify what type of questions should be sent to staff and next steps in the process.

The Commission agreed to send questions to staff that will be asked to local Native American Agencies for compilation before the next meeting. Once the questions are agreed upon they will be sent to the local Native American Agencies via staff. Also, a community listening session will be scheduled in the future.

## 6) RECREATION PROGRAM REVIEW

New Recreation Superintendent Carrie Anderson introduced herself to the Commission and provided a brief overview of recreation during COVID and what activities and events will be coming up in 2021.

- Recreation Team
  - Carrie Anderson, Recreation Superintendent
  - Debbie Cash, Recreation Supervisor
  - Christian Swanberg, Recreation Supervisor
  - Gina Robinette, Recreation Supervisor
  - Josh Thygesen, Recreation Supervisor
  - Carole Fink, Gymnastics Coordinator
  - Allie Sertich, Customer Service Representative
  - Kim Wagner, Customer Service Representative
  - 50+ Seasonal Summer Staff
  - 40+ Year Round Instructors and Facility Staff
- Recreation during COVID
  - Modify Recreation Services
    - Modify and adapt services to meet CDC & MDH COVID safety guidelines
  - Capacity Limits
    - Set program and event limits to comply with current restrictions
  - Social Distancing Measures
    - Create areas to distance participants and control movements
  - Personal Protective Equipment and Cleaning Supplies
    - Sufficient supply of masks, cleaning and disinfectant, hand sanitizer, goggles, gloves at each location/program
  - Communication
    - Communicate expectations of participants and staff through COVID Safety Sheets; Contact tracing
- Spring/Summer Catalog
  - March 22 – Delivered to homes
  - April 6 – Registrations opens for most programs
- Summer Programming Considerations
  - A full slate of traditional and new recreational services
  - Recreational opportunities have been created with current guidelines
  - Guidelines may change as we near program start dates
  - Staff will post COVID Safety Sheets 3 weeks prior to program start dates
  - Staff will continue to be creative and innovative to modify and adapt programs to continue to offer services to the community

- Summer Programs
  - Adult Sports
  - Youth Day Camps
  - Youth Sports
  - Adult Activities
  - Events
- Event Management Considerations
  - Capacity Limits
  - Unstructured element
  - Partners/vendors
  - Deadlines for planning
- Summer Events
  - Rosefest Events
    - Run and Roll for the Roses
    - Touch a Truck/Kids Garage Sale
    - Taste of Rosefest
    - Rosefest Parade
    - And more!
  - Party in the Park
  - Discover Your Park
  - Summer Entertainment
  - City Wide Garage Sale
- Facility Rentals
  - Capacity limits per current restrictions
  - Staff will update capacity guidelines if restrictions change
  - Rentals follow COVID safety guidelines
  - Outdoor Park Shelters will be a good option for 2021 gatherings
- Park Shelters (25% Capacity)
  - Jaycees Shelter: 50 people
  - Foundation Shelter: 37 people
  - FOR Parks Shelter: 37 people
  - Lions Shelter: 27 people
- Park Buildings (25% Capacity)
  - Lexington: 12 people
  - Autumn Grove: 12 people
  - Rosebrook: 10 people
  - Oasis: 8 people
  - Sandcastle: 8 people
  - Villa: 8 people

- Frank Rog Amphitheater (Rental Capacity: 100 people)
  - Limited rental days
  - COVID plan
  - Opportunity for Roseville agencies to host outdoor recitals, graduations, performances
  - Social Distancing Circles
- Muriel Sahlin Arboretum (Rental Capacity: 75 people)
  - Popular outdoor wedding venue
  - COVID Plan for spacing
- Harriet Alexander Nature Center (Rental Capacity: 30 (25%))
  - Upstairs capacity: 15 people
  - Downstairs capacity: 15 people
- Affiliated Organizations
  - Roseville Parks and Recreation will continue to support Affiliated Organization by providing rental/scheduling assistance. Staff will work with groups on developing and approving a COVID-19 safety plan prior to in person programming.
  - Youth Athletic Associations
    - RSVL Youth Basketball Association
    - RSVL Area Youth Football Association
    - North Suburban Soccer Association
    - RSVL Area Baseball Association
    - RSVL Area Fast Pitch
    - Roseville Gymnastics
    - RSVL Area Youth Lacrosse
  - Community Organizations
    - Roseville Community Band
    - Roseville Big Band
    - Roseville String Ensemble
    - Metro Men Singers
    - Windjammers Harmonica Band
    - Rosetown Playhouse
    - Roseville Senior Softball
    - Roseville Historical Society

Commissioner Arneson mentioned what a great idea it is to rent out the Amphitheatre for 100 people as not many places can accommodate that many people during COVID.

Commissioner Lenhart relayed how grateful she was for the youth camps last summer and that she is anxiously awaiting them this year.

Staff added how much they appreciated Commissioner Lenhart's feedback and encouraged any Commissioners or members of the public to reach out if they have any questions or feedback.

7) **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

Chair Hoag stated that he would be willing to serve as the Chair for another year as this year was odd due to COVID and he has enjoyed serving as Chair and has yet to host a live meeting. Vice-Chair Dahlstrom conveyed that he is comfortable with Chair Hoag serving another term as Chair.

Commissioner Brown nominated Chair Hoag for the position of Chair of the Roseville Parks and Recreation Commission. Commissioner Lenhart seconds.

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Lenhart, O'Brien and Stoner.

**Nays:** None.

**Abstain:** Hoag.

Commissioner Arneson nominated Vice-Chair Dahlstrom for the position of Vice-Chair of the Roseville Parks and Recreation Commission. Commissioner Brown seconds.

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Heikkila, Hoag, Lenhart, O'Brien and Stoner.

**Nays:** None.

**Abstain:** Dahlstrom.

Chair Hoag thanked the Commission for their continued faith in him and added that he hoped that not all of next year's meetings are virtual.

8) **APPOINT ETHICS COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE**

Commissioner Stoner noted that last year he did not attend a meeting for the Ethics Commission. Commissioner O'Brien provided a brief overview of the Ethics Commissions function and duties prior to COVID.

Commissioner Arneson volunteered for the position of Ethics Representative from the Roseville Parks and Recreation Commission. Vice-Chair Dahlstrom seconds.

**Roll Call**

**Ayes:** Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag, Lenhart, O'Brien and Stoner.

**Nays:** None.

**Abstain:** Arneson.

## 9) **STAFF REPORT**

### a) **NEW OR RELEVANT COMMUNICATIONS AND UPDATE ITEMS**

- Due to the extreme cold the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has held off on reducing the number of deer since the last meeting. To date 23 deer have been taken. The project will end in March and a Final Report will be available
- “Hockey Day Minnesota” was hosted out of the Guidant John Rose MN OVAL
- The Guidant John Rose MN OVAL ice season ends on Sunday, March 7
- Applications are due March 10 for the two Parks and Recreation Commission openings
- The City Council accepted the Commission’s recommendation (including the language regarding the trail) for the new development “The Enclave at McCarron’s Lake”
- Staff thanked Nancy and Jerry for all of the time and insights they have shared on the Commission over the years. Chair Hoag added that he appreciated all of their questions and added that they can send any questions his way in the future and he will share them with the group.

Commissioner Stoner asked staff how the USDA feels about the remaining weeks of the deer reduction season. Staff responded that they are optimistic and that they are continuing with the effort.

Commissioner Stoner relayed that tonight feels like the end of an era. He noted how much he has enjoyed his time on the Commission and what a pleasure it was to work with such a great group of people.

Commissioner Baggenstoss thanked Commissioner O’Brien for her guidance and leadership when she was the Chair and he was the Vice-Chair.

Commissioner O’Brien stated that she feels the Commission is in very good hands with the current group of people and added that if she feels it ever gets out of hand she will make a comment.

## 10) **OTHER**

Chair Hoag asked if Discover Your Parks (DYP) will be a scheduled event this year. Staff responded that it will be and committed to bringing the calendar to future Commission meetings to allow Commissioners to sign-up to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Danielle Christensen, Department Assistant