

**ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 6:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag,
Newby, O'Brien, Stoner

ABSENT:

STAFF: Anderson, Brokke, Christensen, Johnson, McDonagh, Taylor

1) INTRODUCTIONS

2) ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 1, 2019 MEETING

Commissioner O'Brien moved to approve the August 1, 2019 meeting minutes.
Commissioner Newby seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4) PRESENTATION OF MRPA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Staff introduced Alyssa Fram, Recreation Supervisor from the City of Plymouth who was presenting on behalf of the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association (MRPA). Fram provided background on the MRPA and the Awards Committee which oversees professional awards for individuals and the Award of Excellence program which recognizes projects. The acquisition and management of Unity Park was nominated, and won, an Award of Excellence under the "Administrative Management" category. Fram recognized the Commission, staff and community for their excellent work on the park. The Award of Excellence was presented to Chair Baggenstoss.

The Commission discussed the special model that was utilized with the project and the wonderful community impact the small park brings to the city.

5) 2019-20 DEER MONITORING AND REDUCTION PROGRAM DISCUSSION

Staff provided a review of the deer population within the city (2013 – 57 deer, 2014 – 61 deer, 2015 – lack of snow no survey, 2016 – 52 deer, 2017 – lack of snow no survey, 2018 – 43 deer, 2019 – 45 deer).

Discussion centered around the number of deer to reduce the herd. It was suggested by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that it would be feasible to reduce the herd by 50-55. The rationale is as follows:

- Survey – February, 2019 – 45 minimum
- Last reduction – March, 2019 – 10 taken
- Remaining herd 35
- Assume ½ are female (17.5)
- Assume 2 fawns each (add 35) + 35
- Assumed population 70
- Habitat support - 17
- Herd reduction number 53

Commissioner Stoner questioned the cost difference between the first and second season reduction efforts. Staff responded that the second season was higher mostly due to unfavorable weather conditions. As well as the city requested to target antlerless deer only.

Chair Baggenstoss inquired if the staff recommendation number of 40 is from the experts or from staff. Staff noted that the number was determined by staff as a reasonable number keeping in line with the previous incremental approach that the city has taken.

The Commission discussed the potential of requesting additional tags this year and adjusting the program in subsequent years based on future survey results.

Commissioner Arneson asked about the cost difference of requesting 50 tags vs. 40 tags. Staff responded that the cost would not be different based on the amount of tags requested. However, the cost would be higher with the USDA for time and materials to bait, reduce and process the additional deer.

Commissioner Brown noted that he feels the incremental approach of 40 is reasonable based on potential natural mortality. Commissioner Newby concurred noting that not all people agree with the removal of the deer in the city. He further noted that not removing the deer is no longer feasible to have a healthy herd but he views 40 as appropriate with the option to review the program next year and increase the amount as necessary.

Commissioner O'Brien commented that she feels the only reason to modify the experts reduction recommendation would be if residents did not feel comfortable with the recommended number.

Commissioner Stoner moved to recommend (to the Roseville Parks and Recreation Department) the reduction of 40 deer for the 2019/2020 season. Commissioner Brown seconded. Motion failed 3-6 with Stoner, Brown and Hoag voting in favor of the motion, and Arneson, Baggenstoss, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Newby and O'Brien voting nay.

The Commission discussed the spirit of the USDA and DNR recommendation of reducing the herd by 50-55 deer. In addition, they discussed the potential recommendation and the impact on the budget.

Commissioner O'Brien commented that one of the primary goals of the program is to have a healthy herd.

Commissioner O'Brien moved to recommend the USDA and DNR's suggestion of reducing the population by 50 for the 2019/2020 season with the understanding that the amount can be adjusted based on the budget. Commissioner Dahlstrom seconded. Motion passed 8-1 with Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Newby, O'Brien and Stoner voting in favor of the motion, and Hoag voting nay.

**6) CEDARHOLM COMMUNITY BUILDING/GOLF COURSE GRILL RFP
DISCUSSION**

Staff provided an overview of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Cedarholm Community Building and Golf Course Grill/Restaurant Service.

The key parts of the RFP include:

- Finding a partner in achieving the city vision.
- Conveying the opportunity to the vendor about the top notch facility, location and willing and engaged partner being the City of Roseville.
- Trusting the experts and encouraging creativity from the proposers.

Commissioner O'Brien noted that she really likes the vague approach of the RFP. She believes it is in line with the request of the City Council to get additional information on what potential food service possibilities are available.

Commissioner Brown asked for additional details on what the RFP process will look like. Staff stated that the RFP will be posted via traditional RFP advertising on the city website and also will be sent out to all known food service contacts.

Vice-Chair Hoag inquired if staff will still continue to pursue the liquor license at the legislature. Staff confirmed that, yes, they will continue to pursue the change at the legislature to allow for a liquor license at the Cedarholm Community Building.

Commissioner Arneson noted that 26 seats may be too small for some vendors.

The Commission discussed next steps and agreed that based upon City Council guidance at the last joint meeting, it is recommended to move forward and send out the RFP as soon as it is finalized.

Commissioner Dahlstrom questioned the rationale behind the request for a 2-3 year lease agreement. Staff stated that it is for continuity and to hopefully draw greater interest.

Staff asked how the Commission feels about leaving out the minimum dollar amount in the RFP. The Commission agreed to leave it open in the hopes of potentially providing for greater vision and opportunities.

7) ACCELERATED EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) PROGRAM DISCUSSION

Vice-Chair Hoag and Commissioner Stoner attended the Finance Commission meeting on August 13, 2019. Vice-Chair Hoag relayed that the Finance Commission was supportive of the Accelerated EAB Program. However, there was some confusion on why the item was brought to the Finance Commission as they view the Reserve Fund expenditure as a City Council decision.

Commissioner Stoner encouraged the City Council to provide further details on what type of recommendation they are looking for from the Finance Commission.

The Commission discussed next steps to move this item forward. They agreed that another request to the City Council should be the next step. A discussion occurred about scheduling an upcoming joint meeting with the City Council, possibly on October 7 or October 14. Several Commissioners commented that they could attend either date. Staff will review timing and update the Commission.

8) PARK DEDICATION ANNUAL RATE REVIEW

Currently, Roseville Parks and Recreation has a \$35-\$40 million dollar Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The Master Plan was created by the community to guide the CIP. The role of the Commission is to utilize the Master Plan, CIP and land acquisition needs to recommend Park Dedication rates to the City Council. The comparison survey is simply another tool to use for awareness purposes.

Commissioner Stoner discussed the recent trends of Roseville homes to create large higher-end homes. He discussed the option of adjusting the residential rate to Fair Market Value (FMV) to possibly create more equity between new developments.

The Commission discussed potential types of Park Dedication programs that Roseville could utilize and discussed what surrounding communities are currently doing.

Commissioner O'Brien moved to recommend keeping the Park Dedication rates the same for 2020. Vice-Chair Hoag seconded. Motion passed 8-1 with Arneson, Baggenstoss, Brown, Dahlstrom, Heikkila, Hoag, Newby and O'Brien voting in favor of the motion, and Stoner voting nay.

9) **STAFF REPORT**

a) **HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH EVENT**

The Hispanic Heritage Month event will be on October 5. The band Conjunto Bravo will begin at 5 p.m. and a food truck will be onsite. All are welcome to attend!

b) **PETITION RECEIVED ADVOCATING FOR PERMANENT PICKLEBALL COURTS**

The Parks and Recreation office has received a petition for permanent pickleball courts at Evergreen Park. Six pickleball courts could possibly fit on the Evergreen tennis courts. Commissioner Heikkila added that he is doing a report on pickleball in Shoreview at the Shoreview Commons and the utilization that he has witnessed there has been that all courts are full with 35-40 people in line waiting to play. More to come on pickleball as it appears to be a growing sport of interest by residents.

c) **OTHER NEW OR RELEVANT COMMUNICATION ITEMS**

- Youth Commissioner Positions are open on the Parks and Recreation, Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement, Public Works, and the Environment and Transportation Commissions
- The next Natural Resource Restoration Event is at Central Park Victoria Ballfields on September 21 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- The Public Works, Environment and Transportation Commission is interested in putting together a Forestry Task Force. Commissioner Dahlstrom and Vice-Chair Hoag volunteered to represent the Parks and Recreation Commission on the Forestry Task Force.

10) **OTHER**

Commissioner O'Brien requested that Rachel Boggs and Jim Taylor be at a future meeting to discuss volunteerism specific to Natural Resource Renewal.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Danielle Christensen, Department Assistant