

**CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING NOTES
November 20, 2019
6:30 PM**

North St. Paul City Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Larry Amsden
Nancy Thorsen
Tim Cole
Heather Haas

Absent: Lloyd Grachek, Chair
Laura Greenlee-Karp, Vice Chair
Sarah Zahradka
Ingrid Koller

Ex-Officio: Jim Naughton, NSPAA

Council Liaison: Candy Petersen

Staff: Debra Gustafson
Keith Stachowski
Jill Officer

Due to lack of quorum no actions were formally taken, items were discussion only.

III. ADOPT AGENDA

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

V. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Note: This is a courtesy extended to persons wishing to address the Commission concerning issues that are not on the agenda. This discussion will be limited to 15 minutes.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

VII. COMMISSION BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. **Review/Discussion/Recommendation:** Halloween Update. Stachowski stated it was an excellent turnout, vendors were expected to come back next year. Commissioners Cole and Amsden brought up having officers there earlier for traffic control.
- B. **Review/Discussion/Recommendation:** Star Watch Update –Stachowski stated it was a success however only half of registrants showed up. Presentation was good even though it was a cloudy evening.
- C. **Review/Discussion/Recommendation:** Polar Explorers Program Review – No discussion.
- D. **Review/Discussion/Recommendation:** Fire and Ice Event- January 3rd, Fire staff has already collected wood from public works for bonfires. Salvation Army will be providing hot cocoa. Gustafson brought to attention that the school felt having New Horizon as the event sponsor was a conflict of interest. Laura was called to explain what those were –which is overlapping pre-k programs. Settled on poster wording to say City and School collaboration, salvation army and sponsor providing refreshments.
- E. **Review/Discussion/Recommendation:** Rotary Park bathrooms-delayed due to contractor issues but will open soon. Century College students are currently working on the project.
- F. **Review/Discussion/Recommendation:** Goals and Accomplishments –Gustafson presented PowerPoint slides for final suggestions. Accomplishments- Commissioner Cole recommended adding North Track team to park clean up, added egg count of 9000 and people count of 2500+ to egg hunt, added number of food trucks to food truck night and added people count of 250 residents to fire and ice. Projects in Progress slides- suggested to add ADA accessible to Polar Park plan.
- G. **Review/Discussion/Recommendation:** 2020 Goals- discussed the possibility of a building at Northwood Park-possibly a rental? Dog park –possible locations discussed, old tennis courts, Casey Park army equipment area, somewhere closer to downtown. McKnight sports complex –tennis court options? Update park plan. Commissioner Cole suggested possibly shelter/bathroom at Silver Lake. Gustafson added the Silver Lake playground around 2026.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STAFF

- A. **Review/Discussion:** Budget Update – September – Will be reviewed at the January meeting.
- B. **Review/Discussion:** Polar Park Plan – discussion tabled until next year.

IX. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS & PARK LIAISONS

- A. **Review/Discussion:**

X. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Next meeting: January 22, 2020 meeting at City Hall-Sandberg Room at 6:30 p.m.