



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
ci.northfield.mn.us

Meeting Minutes - Draft Park & Recreation Advisory Board

Thursday, July 19, 2018

7:00 PM

City Hall 2nd Floor Training Room

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chairman Dale Gehring called the July 2018 PRAB meeting to order at 7:24pm.

Present: 6 - Chair Dale Gehring, Vice Chair David Hvistendahl, Peder Jothén, Beth Kallestad, Neil Lutsky and Kristin Partlo

Absent: 1 - Bonnie Keeler

II. Approval of Minutes

1. [18-364](#)

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes-Jun-2018](#)

A motion was made by Board Member Lutsky, seconded by Board Member Jothén, to approve the June 2018 Minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

III. Public Comment

Peg Morrison and Scott Forsgren from The Crossings spoke as a follow up to last month's discussion on the city owned land between The Crossings and the Cannon River. The City agreed to rough-cut mow the area until a permanent trail is constructed. PRAB will revisit this issue again in spring 2019.

Andrea Berude spoke, representing a group of Moms in Northfield, interested in a splash pad in Northfield. The group is looking into fundraising for the project. City staff is interested in hearing this groups ideas and possible location for a splash pad.

IV. Reports and Discussion Items

2. [18-365](#)

Staff Reports

Attachments: [Park Report.pdf](#)
[Park REC Report.pdf](#)

Community Education - Melissa updated members on the current programs running through Community Ed. Safety Camp and Promise FAIRS are both taking place the beginning of August. The fall brochure will be mailed out on August 10th.

Park Department - The old bleachers have been removed from the rodeo grounds. The ground will be graded week in preparation for the new bleachers to be installed. A group of girl scouts has inquired about working on the sand volleyball court in Memorial Park. The City will work with the group to improve the court.

Recreation Department - Summer ice is in at the arena. The compressors were not working properly, requiring repairs. The pool is open. Staff is looking at adjusting operating hours for next year. Staff met with Flagship Recreation on adding a splash pad to the pool area, and are waiting for a final report from the company.

V. Unfinished Business

3. [18-366](#) Park Fund Update

Attachments: [Park Fund Spreadsheet.pdf](#)
[Park Fund Graph.pdf](#)

The park fund capital improvement spreadsheet for the next five years was reviewed. PRAB members discussed the idea of keeping a wish list of park projects discussed at PRAB meetings.

4. [18-367](#) Public Input On Northfield Parks

Discussion was held on the best way to gather public input on park needs that included PRAB meetings, surveys, newspaper article, utility billing, posters in parks, talks at community schools. Staff will draft a poster requesting input, to be distributed throughout the City.

VI. New Business Items

5. [18-368](#) Presentation on Invasive Species

Nancy Braker, from Carleton College, gave a presentation on invasive plants. She stressed the importance of being a good neighbor by removing non-native invasive species, which include Wild Parsnip, Purple Loosestrife, Buckthorn and Amur Cork Tree. She also shared noxious weed laws.

6. [18-369](#) Sign at Bridge Square

Attachments: [2018 explore mn tourism award presentation.JPG](#)
[bridge square with monument.jpg](#)

Discussion was held on the placement of the #OnlyInMN monument in Bridge Square.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hvistendahl, seconded by Board Member Jothen, to approve the #OnlyInMN monument to be placed at Bridge Square from August 30 to September 17. All in favor, except for N. Lutsky who voted against the placement. Motion carried.

VII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Board Member Partlo, seconded by Board Member Kallestad, to adjourn the July PRAB meeting at 8:40pm. The motion carried unanimously.