



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
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Meeting Minutes - Draft Park & Recreation Advisory Board

Thursday, October 18, 2018

7:00 PM

City Hall 2nd Floor Training Room

I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Planning Commission Chairman Joe Gasior called the October 2018 joint PC & PRAB meeting to order at 7:00pm.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hvistendahl, seconded by Board Member Jothan, to approve the October 2018 PRAB agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. [18-460](#)

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

EQC Chair, Kim Smith, updated PRAB on CAPAB progress and the need for volunteers on the newly formed subcommittees. She also spoke to the commissions concern on dark skies.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hvistendahl, seconded by Board Member Partlo, to approve the July 2018 PRAB minutes as written. All in favor. Motion carried.

III. Reports and Discussion Items

2. [18-461](#)

Staff Reports

Attachments: [Sept Rec Report.pdf](#)

[October park report](#)

Recreation Department - The start at the arena was stalled due to a leak in the compressor. The compressor has been repaired, R32 added and the arena is open. Staff was able to save the ice during the tornado when they experienced an extended electrical outage.

Pool numbers were shared and discussion was held on ways to increase revenue. Social media worked well to broadcast pool hours and closings.

Community Education - Melissa shared Community Ed's highlights from the summer. This years theme was "The shortest route often has the steepest hills". Discussion was held on how Community Ed collaborates with other Northfield associations, the YMCA and the schools.

Park Department - A community service project, with many volunteers participating, was held on September 26 at First National Field to rebuild the pitcher's mound and grade the

infield. Playground fall protection has been replaced at Grant, Jefferson, Sibley Swale, Truman and Tyler parks.

IV. Unfinished Business

3. [18-510](#) Pedestrian, Bike and Park Trail System Update

Attachments: [Northfield Ped Bike Park Trail RFP - Final.pdf](#)

Connor Cox from Toole Design Co. addressed the PRAB and PC. He presented a summary from the completed community outreach. Over 140 people were reached to share their ideas on city trails. 72% of those who completed the survey favored option B on the Mill Towns State Trail which would run along Jefferson Pkwy. Toole Design Co. will come back to PRAB & PC with updates and recommendations in the next couple months. Members with questions should email Connor directly.

4. [18-462](#) Memorial Park Pool Recap and Splash Pad Update

Attachments: [Splash Pad Design Equipment Proposal.pdf](#)

If a splash pad were to be installed at the pool, it would have to be a separate plumbing system. The current system at the solar panels feed directly into the main pool. A splash pad would be a great way to introduce children to water, but is it the amenity needed at the Northfield pool? The current system at the pool would allow for the addition of fountains or a slide. Discussion was held on pool hours.

5. [18-465](#) Memorial Park Volleyball Court

River Valleys Girl Scout Troop 25258 shared pictures of all the work they performed to the sand volleyball court in Memorial Park. The court is now weed free and usable, with a concrete slab ready for a bench to be installed. They received the Girls Scout Silver Award for completing this project.

6. [18-463](#) Riverside Park Pickle Ball Court Update

Attachments: [Park Fund.pdf](#)
[Pickleball Court.pdf](#)

Stephen Hochheiser, Vice President of the homeowners association from Village on the Cannon, requested new pickle ball courts to be built in Riverside Park. Stephen said the courts are used every day until the snow flies, but are difficult to play because of the current surface of the courts and their positioning.

Discussion was held on the park budget and if the money will be best spent on pickle ball courts. PRAB members would like more park ideas before designating the entire 2020 CIP to the courts.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hvistendahl, seconded by Board Member Hollerung, to add four pickle ball courts to the 2020 CIP. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Chair Gehring and Vice Chair Hvistendahl

No: 4 - Board Member Jothen, Board Member Kallestad, Board Member Hollerung and Board Member Partlo

7. [18-464](#) Public Input on Northfield Parks

Attachments: [Help Wanted Flyer.pdf](#)
[Northfield_Ped-Bike-Trail_Flyer](#)

Discussion was held on ways to gather public input on park needs. PRAB would like to distribute a flyer to the schools, senior center, coop, library, and community ed brochure. Members would also like staff to add more color and links to the flyer.

V. New Business Items

8. [18-466](#) Northfield Parks Playground Equipment

PRAB members reviewed the Northfield parks playground equipment installation dates which range from 1996 through 2008. The expected life of playground equipment is from 25-30 years.

VI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hvistendahl, seconded by Board Member Hollerung, to adjourn the October PRAB meeting at 9:15pm. The motion carried unanimously.