



# City of Northfield

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft Park & Recreation Advisory Board

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Thursday, September 16, 2021

6:30 PM

City Hall 2nd Floor Training Room

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### CALL TO ORDER

*Also present: Board Member Adam Wale; Youth Representative Soren Richardson; Cora McBoom, Northfield; Mayor Rhonda Pownell; Northfield resident Aaron Custard; Tim Behrendt, Streets & Parks Manager; Judy Becker, Meeting Associate*

**Chair Hollerung called the September 16, 2021 Meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) to order at 6:30 PM and took Roll Call.**

**Present:** 6 - Board Member Daniel Hollerung, Board Member Nathan Knutson, Board Member Neil Lutsky, Board Member Peder Jothen, Board Member Ben Playter and Board Member Rebecca Peterson

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Motion by Board Member Lutsky, second by Board Member Knutson, to approve the meeting Agenda. Motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Hollerung, Board Member Knutson, Board Member Lutsky, Board Member Jothen, Board Member Playter and Board Member Peterson

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [21-526](#) August 19, 2021 PRAB Meeting Minutes.

**Attachments:** [Meeting Minutes Aug-2021](#)

*Board Member Playter asked that, under Item 6, 'Consider Motion to approve Cash-in-lieu of Land for Park Dedication for the Kraewood Development,' item 2 of the motion be clarified. Discussion followed. Item 2 should be amended to state: The PRAB recommends that the City Council take this opportunity to consider what area of the development would most benefit the public should the designated amount of park land be developed.*

**Motion by Board Member Knutson, second by Board Member Jothen, to approve the August 19, 2021 PRAB Meeting Minutes as amended. Motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Hollerung, Board Member Knutson, Board Member Lutsky, Board Member Jothen, Board Member Playter and Board Member Peterson

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Aaron Custard, Northfield resident, discussed some concerns he has about the Skateboard Park located in Memorial Park. He cited fires, trash, use of the park after 10:00 PM, vandalism around the neighborhood. Neighbors share his concerns. Behrendt will take this issue back to staff and encouraged Mr. Custard to follow up with him. Behrendt will include this item for the next PRAB meeting.*

## OLD BUSINESS

2. [21-527](#) Riverfront Enhancement Action Plan.

**Attachments:** [Project Sequence Chart 05.06.pdf](#)

*Chair Hollerung gave an update on the 2020 Riverfront Enhancement Action Plan, detailing the status of projects currently in progress, specifically in relation to Ames and Babcock Parks. Construction of Pickleball courts in Riverside Park has been delayed due to bids coming in higher than budget.*

## NEW BUSINESS

3. [21-528](#) Downtown Flood Study.

**Attachments:** [1 - Downtown Property Prone to Flooding.pdf](#)

*The City of Northfield held an information meeting on September 15th to receive input from property owners impacted by recent flooding events of the Cannon River.*

*The City received a FEMA Grant to conduct a flood study to explore options for the City to be more flood resilient for future flooding events. The City has contracted with firms to conduct this study, which is expected to be available in early 2022. A map of downtown properties prone to flooding, along with site pictures of buildings on these properties, was presented; City Parks are included in this map. The study will include the dam and the walls constructed along the river. Consideration will also be given as to how to finance improvements of these structures, to include funding opportunities.*

*There was discussion of the park areas that are inaccessible due to flooding and concern about these being addressed in the study as well.*

## STAFF UPDATES

4. [21-529](#) Staff Reports.

**Attachments:** [September Park Report.pdf](#)  
[Rec Report.pdf](#)

*Behrendt provided park updates on:*

*\*Sechler and Babcock Parks; \*City-wide Parks; \*Park Projects*

*Spooner provided updates on:*

*\*Arena; \*Pool*

*The Annual report from Community Education and Recreation will be available at next month's meeting.*

## ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Board Member Lutsky, second by Knutson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 PM. Motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Board Member Hollerung, Board Member Knutson, Board Member Lutsky, Board Member Jothen, Board Member Playter and Board Member Peterson