

Crystal Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
November 4, 2015
Crystal Community Center

Approved 12/2/15

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chairperson Erin Kolb. Commission members in attendance were: Lori Merriam, Nancy LaRoche. There was not a quorum. Lynn Haney and Tom Jungroth arrived after the Blue Line meeting to make a quorum. Also present were Brad Fortin, and Gene Hackett from the city staff. Elizabeth Dahl, Council Liaison arrived after the Blue Line meeting. Also attending was Meredith Torres-Walsh, a candidate for Commission membership and Matthew Breunig, Manager of the new Crystal Anytime Fitness.

Matthew Breunig was introduced to the group. He is interested in becoming involved in the community.

While waiting for the others to arrive, Ms. Hackett updated the following projects in progress:

- Summarized the memo from Mark Ray regarding the closure of Brunswick Avenue.
- Reviewed progress on the way finding signs
- Updated the Becker Park address process
- Informed the Commission of the new computer software, Rectrak, that will go live mid-month
- Reminded the group of the Bassett Creek Regional Trail Open House
- Encouraged everyone to nominate houses for Crystal Sparkles.
- Installation of the new dog park signs

When the quorum was reached, the minutes were approved as sent.

The Commission reviewed the progress on the 2015 work plan. Ms. Hackett will complete the updates to the document for final review in December. The Commission will have a work session with the Council sometime early next year to review the final status of the 2015 work plan and discuss 2016 items.

Three Commission members' terms expire at the end of the year. There are 2 Commission candidates interested in joining. The City Council has not finalized their plan for Commission appointments. Mr. Jungroth felt it should be "business as usual" and appointments and re-appointments should be made using the current system until changes are made. Commissioners felt that making new applicants' wait until a decision was made is discouraging to them and may deter them from volunteering. Ms. Dahl said that the Council will finalize their Commission plan at their next work session.

Tom Jungroth was congratulated on serving 25 years on the Commission. The City Council will recognize his service on December 1.

Staff gave the monthly reports, highlighting major activities.

Minutes: November 2015

Ms Dahl gave the City Council report including an update on the city budget, the Commission discussion and the LRT. She mentioned she is working with the Recreation Department on a Home School Open Gym.

Ms. Haney gave the Crystal Frolics Report. Plans are underway for expanding the Sunday family event. She is hoping to work with the city to get the business contacts list. The 2015 Frolics spent \$5000 more than was taken in. The next meeting is 11/16 at 7pm.

Mr. Jungroth and Mr. Breunig reported that the next CBA meeting is November 18 at the new Anytime Fitness.

The Blue Line Station Committee met and discussed the area around the proposed station at Bass Lake Road and Highway 81. LRT will change the city. The Becker Park area was discussed. There are areas in the park where people feel unsafe so discussion was held on ideas to make the area more walker/biker friendly. The building and playground area are somewhat hidden. Commission members felt that the park needs to remain and were open to renovation ideas. The Bass Lake Road area needs some renovation too. A promenade concept was presented. There was discussion regarding a ped bridge over Highway 81. The consultant presented a couple of ideas for the area. An open house will be held at the Library.

Community News items:

- Light of Crystal Halfway Happy hour is at the VFW.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

Gene Hackett
Recorder