

Crystal Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
April 6, 2016
Crystal Community Center

The Parks and Recreation Commission Tree Board meeting was called to order at 6:38pm by Tree Board Chairperson Erin Kolb. Tree Board members in attendance were: Lynn Haney, Lori Merriam, Erin Kolb, Meredith Torres-Walsh, Tom Jungroth and Guy Mueller. Also present were Elizabeth Dahl, Council Liaison; Scott Berggren, Brad Fortin, and Gene Hackett from the city staff.

Mr. Fortin reviewed the Forestry Annual report, highlighting work that was done in the past year. The Tree Board discussed the boulevard planting ordinance and thought it should be looked into for some changes. Mr. Fortin explained that there were some issues with the boulevard trees regarding sidewalk and sewer issues and tree trimming at additional costs to the city. Mr. Fortin said he will look further into the issue and see what he might recommend.

The Arbor days plans were reviewed. The Crystal Fund is donating money for the tree giveaway. Volunteers for the event include: Lori, Meredith, Tom, Nancy and Erin and Elizabeth.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Chairperson Nancy LaRoche. Commission members in attendance were: Lynn Haney, Lori Merriam, Erin Kolb, Meredith Torres-Walsh, Guy Mueller, Mark Novak and Lassana Bamba Jr.. Also present were Elizabeth Dahl, Council Liaison; Scott Berggren, Brad Fortin, and Gene Hackett from the city staff.

Presenters Richard and Irina Fursman worked with the Commission to begin the Becker Park redevelopment process. This meeting was to determine the key questions for the consensus planning workshop. Discussion was held on 2 main topics: current status and the desired status; and then additional discussion on whom the stakeholders would be for future meetings. Several topics were discussed. The stakeholder meeting was scheduled for Thursday June 2.

The minutes were approved as sent.

Mr. Fortin and Mr. Berggren reviewed the Welcome Park plans for the April 20th Open House. Commission members should attend – the following people said they would be there: Lynn, Nancy, and Erin.

The Commission decided to keep the scheduled May 11 park tour.

Minutes: April 2016

Mr. Fortin showed the Commission what the Bassett Creek Regional Trail map kiosk will look like it will be placed near 32nd and Adair Avenue N. The trail agreement with Three Rives Park District went to the City Council on April 5 and was approved.

Mr. Jungroth asked Mr. Fortin about cutting down/trimming trees at Becker Park as some have grown to obscure the facility. Mr. Fortin said that is on his work plan.

Monthly reports were discussed. Ms. Haney added that Half Price Books and Love Works will be Crystal Frolics sponsors. The button contest entry has been extended. Ms Dahl added that she and Councilmember Peak are working to put together a Task Force on volunteers.

Mr. Fortin informed the Commission that a resident living near Hagemeister Pond Preserve has been very helpful in keeping the park clean. The Commission will send a thank you note.

Mr. Mueller reported that the Crystal Fund is donating to the city for:

- Arbor Day trees
- Accessible swings in playgrounds
- Updating the park signs

Members were reminded of the Crystal Business Expo on April 23 from 11 – 2.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm.

Gene Hackett
Recorder