

Crystal Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
February 3, 2016
Crystal Community Center

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairperson Nancy LaRoche. Commission members in attendance were: Lynn Haney, Steve Hildre, Lori Merriam, Erin Kolb, and Lassana Bamba Jr.. Also present were Elizabeth Dahl, Council Liaison; Marcia Bach, Brad Fortin, and Gene Hackett from the city staff. Also attending was Guy Mueller, representing the Crystal Fund for Community Progress and Meredith Torres-Walsh, Commission candidate.

The minutes were approved as sent.

Ms. LaRoche informed the members that as soon as the new Commission members are selected, the member books will be updated. Commission interviews will be held later this month.

The Commission reviewed the 2016 work plan draft. It will be finalized after the joint work session with the Council, in case the Council has items to add.

Marcia Bach, Recreation Supervisor, gave an overview of her program responsibilities including joint programs with other cities and highlighted upcoming events. Discussion was held concerning programs to attract the “young” seniors – those that may not be retired. Methods of publicity were also discussed.

Guy Mueller spoke to the Commission regarding the Crystal Fund for Community Progress (CF). The CF is interested in partnering with the Commission on fundraising and projects. Mr. Mueller hoped that 1 or 2 Commission members could join the board of the CF to better coordinate projects. Their next meeting is February 22; Mr. Fortin will attend to discuss projects. The Commission discussed ways the CF could get their name known. Co-sponsoring of Arbor Day was discussed – the CF could donate the giveaway trees.

Elizabeth Dahl outlined the conversation with the City Attorney regarding fundraising. Most of the fundraising ideas presented are allowed by law. Some of the other ideas will have to be in connection with the Crystal Fund. Staff will start to work out the details in the Round-Up program and the Membership program for further discussion. Commission members wanted the Council to know that these fundraising options should not replace funding in the PIR.

The Commission chose the colors of the Yunker Park amenities.

Mr. Fortin informed the Commission of a family near Twin Oak Park that would like to construct and place wood duck and purple martin houses in the park near the pond area. The Commission was in favor of the idea.

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Commission members discussed the memo from the City Engineer regarding the water retention area as it relates to the possibility of reconstructing the park.

Staff gave the monthly reports, highlighting major activities.

Ms. Dahl highlighted the last City Council meeting. The Blue Line municipal consent meeting will be held February 16.

Ms. Haney outlined new Crystal Frolics events. The Crystal ball search may be changed up to allow more sponsorship from local businesses instead of a cash prize.

There was not a CBA report.

Upcoming events:

March 12	Light of Crystal Bowling Fundraising at Doyles
March 20	Bowling for Rocco at Doyles
May 18	Crime Prevention Fund Jail and Bail

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40pm.

Gene Hackett
Recorder