

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
LITTLE CANADA, MINNESOTA**

January 3, 2019

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission of the City of Little Canada, Minnesota, was held on the 3rd day in January 2019 in the Council Chambers of the City Center located at 515 Little Canada Road East in said city.

Chair Dave Miller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the following members of the commission were present:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Anna Abruzzese
 Ms. Rose Chu
 Ms. Sharen Darling
 Mr. Ron Horwath
 Mr. Dave Miller
 Mr. Tom Ray
 Mr. Peter Schletty

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Bryce Shearen, Parks and Recreation/
 Community Services Manager
 Mr. Tom Fischer, City Council Member

MINUTES

Ray made a motion to approve the minutes from the December meeting. Abruzzese seconded the motion. The motion passed 7 – 0.

**ELECTION OF
VICE CHAIR**

Ray made a motion to nominate Ron Horwath as Vice Chair. Schletty seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**THUNDER BAY
/ WESTWIND
PARK UPDATE**

The Community Services Manager reported staff met with Xcel Energy and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to walk through the trail area that was impacted from the clearing done under the transmission lines. He stated the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service thought this would be an excellent area for natural grassland and pollinator habitats in the affected areas of the clearing. The Community Services Manager explained the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would prepare a design and plan to be presented in the spring of 2019. The plan will offer a guide to stage the

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planting over the next few growing seasons. Ray noted Bachman's on Lyndale in Minneapolis is having a class on Sunday, January 13 to talk about planting pollinators like Milkweed in your backyard.

**COMMISSIONER
APPOINTMENTS**

The Community Services Manager reported Ray and Schletty's terms had expired on December 31, 2018, but both had renewed and been approved by City Council for another 3-year term. Dave Miller was appointed to serve as Chair for 2019.

**2019 MEETING
DATES**

The Community Services Manager reported staff had prepared a draft meeting schedule. He noted the July meeting had been rescheduled to Tuesday, July 9 at 6:30 due to the 4th of July Holiday. The Community Services Manager stated the August meeting will be canceled due to Night to Unite and National Night Out. **Ray made a motion to approve the draft meeting schedule. Darling seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**SPOONER PARK
COMMUNITY BUILD
SUBCOMMITTEE**

The Community Services Manager reported that as planning for the playground continues, a subcommittee should be organized to facilitate the community build process. He explained the Committee would organize the 75-90 volunteer group, address media interests, and discuss partnerships with local businesses and organizations. The Community Services Manager stated there would be approximately four to six meetings over the next four months and he is looking for two to three commission members to serve on the Committee. Darling asked when the Community Build would be. The Community Services Manager stated the build should happen sometime in June, but the date has not been decided. Chu, Darling, and Horwath volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Horwath agreed to Chair the subcommittee.

**OTHER
BUSINESS**

The Community Services Manager reported Katie McGinnity the Recreation Supervisor resigned and her last day was on Monday. The Commission thanked McGinnity for her service. Darling asked if the Council would be re-hiring. The Community Services Manager stated the Council is considering hiring an intern for this spring, and then re-hiring for the Recreation Supervisor Position later this year. Chu suggested the Commission recognize McGinnity with a card. The Community Services Manager stated he would get a card for the Commission to sign at the next meeting.

The Community Services Manager reported youth basketball, gymnastics and skating lessons will begin next week.

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The Community Services Manager reported the LCRA Ice Fishing Tournament and the LCFD Booya will take place on February 2.

The Community Services Manager reported co-rec adult broomball would be advertised this year, and if there is interest a league will be held.

The Community Services Manager reported Market Place Morning Talk is on January 9, and the topic is Living on a Limited Budget.

Chair Miller recognized Maggie Nichols for her accomplishments as Athlete of the Year in the Star Tribune.

The Community Services Manager reported the Cookies with Santa event was a success with almost 300 people in attendance.

ADJOURN

Horwath moved the meeting be adjourned

Motion seconded by Darling.

Motion carried 7 – 0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Leibel
Recording Secretary