

OSSEO PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
April 2, 2018

4 A

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Osseo Parks & Recreation Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Kerstin Schulz at 6:02 p.m., Monday, April 2, 2018.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Dee Bonn, Kerstin Schulz, Larry Stelmach (left at 6:20 pm), Alden Webster, Brittney Quant, and Anne Zelenak.

Absent: Sloan Wallgren

Others present: Harold E. Johnson, Dave Garibaldi, Ed Columbus, Public Health/Planning Intern Kyler McLachlan, and City Planner Nancy Abts

3. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Zelenak, seconded by Webster, to approve the meeting's agenda. The motion passed 6-0.

4. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Stelmach, seconded by Quant, to approve the February 5, 2018, meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed 6-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kerstin advised the public that this is the time for public comments. There were no comments from the public.

6. SPECIAL BUSINESS

A. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HIRING UPDATE

Larry provided the Committee with an update on the Public Works Director hiring. Applications from 19 candidates were received. After first-round interviews with the City Administrator, current Public Works Director, and City Engineer, the top three candidates were invited to a second-round interview with the Council HR Committee. All three were very impressive. Larry was pleased to report the City Council would consider hiring Nick Waldbillig at a special City Council meeting on Tuesday night.

B. SPRING OPENER UPDATE

Larry provided the Committee with an update on the Spring Opener event. The event will feature food trucks, beer, and live music. It will have an Economic Development focus. This year, the footprint might be larger, building on lessons from events in other communities. He and EDA President Todd Woods will be meeting soon to further develop plans for the event.

C. CITYWIDE NIGHT TO UNITE PRESENTATION

Officer Tony Mortinson introduced himself as the city's Crime Prevention Officer. He noted that the Police Department and the City had been working to plan a citywide Night to Unite celebration. New state legislation passed last year allows police departments to solicit for donations for Night to Unite, and for cities to use general fund budgets for these type of events. Premier Bank has generously donated \$5,000 for the event, and the City will contribute \$2,400.

A committee including hosts of neighborhood parties, business representatives, and Police and Fire Department employees has been meeting to plan the event. It will be held on Tuesday, August 7 from 5:00-8:00 pm on the Civic Campus. There will likely be some street closures required on Central Avenue and 5th Street. Food will be provided in the rear parking lot, so kids do not get distracted by all the other events. Vehicles including a school bus and ambulance for partygoers to explore will be available on the other side of the parking lot. Demonstrations will take place on the Fire Department pad. These will include a Jaws of Life vehicle extraction and a Taser demonstration. Larry agreed to experience the Taser. Bouncy houses will be located in front of City Hall. Snacks and large games will be available in the Central Avenue plaza and in Boerboom Park. There will also be a live band providing music from the bandshell. There will be several information booths for those looking for directions or more information about the event.

Tony also noted that residents were still welcome to host their own neighborhood parties. The hope was that people could attend both the citywide gathering as well as neighborhood events.

The Committee complemented the inclusive planning process and thorough budgeting and planning that had gone into the event. Members stated they were looking forward to the event.

A motion was made by Bonn, seconded by Quant, to recommend the City Council approve the event plans. The motion passed 6-0.

7. BUDGET UPDATE

Nancy updated the committee on the account balances for the Music and Movies in the Park fund, Farmers Market, and Craft Show in the Park. The Committee complemented the formatting.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2018 MUSIC AND MOVIES IN THE PARK SCHEDULE

Nancy presented the proposed 2018 Music and Movies in the Park Schedule. The schedule was updated since the last meeting based on Committee comments, performer availability, and opportunities for new performances. Seven concerts and presentations were proposed, with an additional six movies.

Nancy explained that COMPAS, a nonprofit arts organization that helps connect artists and communities, contacted the City and provided a connection to Danielle Daniel. Daniel is an

artist and author who combines music and storytelling in an all-ages presentation. Additionally, St. Paul's Lutheran Church has offered to sponsor a performance by Patchouli. Patchouli is an internationally-touring husband and wife duo from Maiden Rock, WI. Husband Bruce Hecksel is an Osseo High School graduate and the son of former St. Paul's Lutheran Church pastor Stan Hecksel. She noted that since the group will be performing in Europe and China this spring and summer, their Osseo performance will need to be in August. Given other performers' limited availability, Nancy recommended scheduling them for August 28, the previous "rain date", and planning an earlier rain date for August 14. She noted that St. Paul's Lutheran Church can likely serve as a rain location for Patchouli's performance.

The City Administrator has approved using some of the Youth Recreation funds in the City Budget to pay for staffing and some youth-related programming costs, if donations do not come in to cover those aspects of the program. There are still some donations that might come in.

Dee asked if Snake Discovery could be added to the schedule. Nancy agreed this could be possible if Snake Discovery was available on one of the movie dates. She pointed out that Dee had volunteered to provide checks to the performers and Ed Columbus would be a volunteer emcee and sell ice cream to support the Osseo Lions. Nancy recommended the City hire a recreation attendant to help with the movies, as she would be on parental leave this summer.

The committee agreed the schedule looked good. The Committee thanked Ed for his help with the series.

A motion was made by Bonn, seconded by Webster, to recommend the City Council approve the event schedule with Snake Discovery added (if they are available). The motion passed 5-0.

B. DISCUSS CONTRIBUTIONS TO CITY PROGRAMS

Nancy presented a brochure with information on how businesses and organizations can contribute to City programs. It covers major events like Music and Movies in the Park and Minidazzle, as well as downtown beautification and other City initiatives. It can be sent out once a year, with a letter from the Mayor, to ask for contributions. The flyer would also be available at City Hall and on the website.

The Committee was impressed with the flyer and coordinated ask for contributions.

C. DISCUSS DOWNTOWN BANNERS

Nancy provided an update on downtown banners. Following a suggestion from the Committee, a contest was held to solicit designs for the banners. The contest ended at the end of March. A few entries were received. Staff don't recommend proceeding with any designs submitted. Although the effort that went into creating the designs is appreciated, staff do not think they meet many of the criteria in the call for artists.

One of the banner vendors is willing to create up to two designs at no cost, with additional design work at \$40 an hour. The Committee also suggested contacting the designer of the Osseo logo for his suggestions. Perhaps the prize money could be re-purposed to pay for designs.

A motion was made by Zelenak, seconded by Quant, to recommend the City Council reject the contest entries and ask for designs from vendors and the creator of the Osseo Logo. The motion passed 5-0.

D. DISCUSS OUTDOOR RINK USE

Nancy updated the Committee on use of the outdoor rink. This was the first year rink attendants had been asked to track use. The rinks were open for approximately 2 months, from late December through Presidents Day in February. Use of the rinks was compared to attendance.

There were some costs shared between both rinks, including the cost to rent and provide power to the warming house, as well as the cost for providing rink attendants. Spread across all users, these shared costs came to about \$10.27 per user. Costs for flooding the rinks (including water and staff time) came to about \$16.31 for the Hockey Rink and \$44.74 for the Pleasure Rink. The Hockey Rink was more expensive to maintain overall, but had significantly higher use. Public Works Director Rick Hass suggested not flooding the Pleasure Rink next year.

Anne asked if there could be non-hockey hours designated if the pleasure rink were not provided. Alden agreed that this could work well. Dee suggested it be the same hours every week. If the schedule was communicated well, this could be effective.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2018 YOUTH SPORTS CAMPS

Nancy discussed options for youth sports camps. Last year, three camps were planned but only one met minimum enrollment. The August camp helped fill a gap between the School Age Child Care program end at ISD 279 and the start of the school year. RevSports asked for a new location that might be able to support a larger camp this year. Options for camp locations are limited. Osseo Senior High may be available, but the schedule isn't known yet.

If no camps are offered, she added, there would be a possibility of adding fall or winter programming at the Community Center. Typically weekend mornings are available.

The Committee expressed interest in trying to hold camps again this year, if facilities can be found for programs the first and last week of summer. Anne noted there was no cost to offering the programs. Nancy observed there was opportunity cost to organizing the programs and potentially having to cancel them. Dee inquired about the possibility of renting a tent to post in Sipe Park as a rain location. Anne suggested contacting St. Vincent de Paul to ask if they might have space available for an indoor location near sports fields. Nancy agreed to look into facility availability for the first and last weeks of summer.

B. DISCUSS HEALTHY GENERATIONS: AGE FRIENDLY OSSEO INITIATIVE

Kyler announced there would be an upcoming open house for the Health Generations: Age Friendly Osseo initiative. This work is a continuation of the "Healthy Communities" grant the City received in 2016 and 2017. The Town Hall event will focus on highlighting ongoing Community Health initiatives and will also feature displays how the partnership efforts between Osseo and Hennepin County, the Minnesota Department of Health, and local communities.

The goal of the event will be to provide an opportunity to learn about and participate in this Ongoing initiative, as well as bring attention to the wonderful amenities available to residents of all ages both in Osseo and in surrounding areas. The event is Wednesday, April 18 from 5:00 to 6:30 in the Community Center. Food will be provided. Committee members were encouraged to attend.

10. UPCOMING EVENTS

The Committee reviewed upcoming events, including the Step To It Challenge, Citywide Cleanup, Citywide Garage Sale, and Intermarque Vintage Foreign Car Show and Craft Sale.

11. STAFF & COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

A. YOUTH SPORTS REGISTRATION UPDATE

Nancy presented current enrollment figures for the youth sports classes. The programs have been popular, with many returning participants. Several programs are at their minimum enrollment, and most have at least one person registered. RevSports notes that most enrollments come in the two weeks before the deadline. The Summer 1 classes will start June 4th.

Anne asked that flyers be distributed to Elm Creek Elementary.

B. UPDATE ON SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT

Nancy informed the Committee that the City Council was working on a Special Event Permit. A second reading of the ordinance is on the agenda for the April 9 City Council meeting. Once Special Event procedures are in place, the Committee will look at revisions to the Sipe Park Picnic Shelter and Boerboom Park Bandshell Policies.

C. OSSEO ORCHARD UPDATE

Nancy noted that The Food Group had hosted a Fruit Tree Pruning Work Shop and Work Day at the Orchard on March 25. The event was well received, and attendees completed pruning of all the trees in the park. The orchard seemed to be in good condition, with only a little damage and some signs of fungus on one of the trees (this was pruned off). She looked forward to seeing the trees in bloom this spring.

Alden commended the Osseo and Maple Grove basketball teams on their appearance in the state tournaments. Kerstin noted that there were still booths available at the Craft Show, and interested vendors should contact her.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made Schultz, seconded by Webster, to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy S. Abts
City Planner