

**OSSEO PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
February 2, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Osseo Parks & Recreation Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Kerstin Schulz at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 2, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this meeting was held virtually.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Dee Bonn, Kerstin Schulz, Larry Stelmach, Ashlee Thostenson, Brittney Quant and Alicia Vickerman.

Absent: Committee member Orlando Ponce.

Others present: Community Management Coordinator Joe Amerman

3. WELCOME COMMITTEE MEMBER THOSTENSON AND COUNCILMEMBER VICKERMAN

Chair Schulz welcomed Committee Member Thostenson and Councilmember Vickerman to the Parks and Recreation Committee.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Amerman requested the Committee elect a Chair and Vice Chair for 2021.

Stelmach asked who would be interested in serving as the Vice Chair.

Thostenson stated she would be willing to serve as the Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Stelmach, seconded by Vickerman, to elect Kerstin Schulz Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee for 2021. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 6-0.

A motion was made by Stelmach, seconded by Vickerman, to elect Ashlee Thostenson Vice Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee for 2021. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 6-0.

5. APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Bonn, seconded by Thostenson, to approve the meeting's agenda. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 6-0.

6. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion was made by Bonn, seconded by Thostenson, to approve the December 7, 2020, meeting minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 6-0.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

8. SPECIAL BUSINESS – None

9. OLD BUSINESS – None

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. APPROVE 2021 MUSIC & MOVIES IN THE PARK SCHEDULE

Amerman stated in early January, Staff met with the Music and Movies in the Park subcommittee to discuss programming for the summer of 2021. This conversation built on the draft schedule of events that was presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee at the December 7th, 2020 meeting. During that meeting, the following adjustments to the schedule were proposed:

- Only one rain date, and that this be the last day of the summer, August 31st .
- No programming on the last Tuesday before the beginning of the school year.
- A full nights programming be offered to Yellow Tree Theatre.
- We ask Ed Columbus to return as host/master of ceremonies.
- Reach out to several bands whose 2020 performances were cancelled due to COVID.
- Ideally, every Tuesday would have both a performance and a movie. It was noted the proposed schedule reflects those changes.

Amerman reviewed the proposed performances, movies and staffing. He commented further on the budget noting the total cost of movies, performances, movie attendants, music licensing, and promotional materials is estimated to be \$10,170.00. Gary Groen, the city Financial Consultant has reported that the Music and Movies in the Park fund balance is currently \$8,987.38, these are largely unused funds leftover from cancelled 2020 programming. Staff recommended the Committee discuss the proposed schedule and determine whether staff should solicit additional donations or reduce costs.

Bonn discussed the finances and programming provided last summer. She suggested strongly that the City pursue donations in order to cover the expense of the 2021 programming.

Schulz agreed stating she would like to see a full schedule of programming for 2021.

Thostenson anticipated the City would have a high level of participation this summer from Osseo residents and neighboring communities. She recommended the City pursue donations in order to make the proposed schedule possible.

Vickerman agreed. Amerman stated he would send the donation letter out to all Committee members and community partners in order to begin the donation process.

Thostenson asked if Osseo residents could make donations. Amerman reported this was allowed and explained a notice could be sent out with the April water bill.

Amerman discussed the promotional material cards that were being considered and explained final details were still being worked out for the car show. He indicated he would have additional information regarding the promotional cards in April.

A motion was made by Bonn, seconded by Thostenson, to recommend the City Council approve the 2021 Music and Movies in the Park Schedule. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 6-0.

B. DISCUSS 2021 STEP TO IT PROGRAMMING

Amerman stated to build on past Step To It Challenges, staff is proposing putting together a calendar of community activities during the May Step To It Challenge. Of course, during COVID consideration must be given to the safety of participants. Staff is asking the Committee to discuss the viability of Step To It Programming, and make suggestions regarding what appropriate activities might be.

Bonn reported in 2019 the City had events planned for every Tuesday in May and the attendance was quite poor. She did not believe planning these types of events was a good way to draw people to the Step To It program. She asked if there were funds available to celebrate people participating in this program by offering ice cream at the new ice cream shop at the end of May.

Stelmach stated he has had conversations with the ice cream shop owners and understood they would like to be more invested in the community. He anticipated the City could hold discussions with this business to see if they would host ice cream with a cop events. Amerman reported the City does not have any specific funds set aside for the Step To It programming, but did have other funds available to partner with this business for the Step To It Challenge. He commented he could look into this further and could report back to the Committee in April.

Stelmach indicated he could speak with several local businesses to see if they would be willing to make a donation to cover the expense of the ice cream.

Schulz stated she would bring this idea to the Explore Osseo group as well to seek donations from local businesses.

Stelmach suggested the Tuesday events for 2021 be planned again, but that the start time be pushed back to 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m.

Vickerman supported the challenge focusing on the number of steps because she anticipated people will be interested in getting out and about due to all of the COVID restrictions.

Schulz asked what type of Tuesday events should be planned for 2021. She stated she supported the Walk with a Cop.

Thostenson commented a costume or super hero walk may be fun for the Walk with a Tot day.

Schulz encouraged members to continue to brainstorm Tuesday walk ideas and that staff look into a rewards program for the Step To It Challenge.

C. DISCUSS BOERBOOM PARK

Amerman stated in 2017 the city tasked WSB with developing a master plan for Boerboom Park. This plan was presented to the city in the spring, and at the direction of the City Council, feedback on the plan was gathered through the summer. The feedback findings were presented to the Parks and Recreation Committee at its November 7, 2017 meeting. At that time the recommendation was to continue developing the master plan as drafted. As of 2021, the master plan presented in 2017 is still the guiding plan for the future of Boerboom Park. Implementation of the plan is currently contingent upon several factors:

- Acquisition of all homes located on the eastern edge of Boerboom Park:
 - o The city owns three of the four homes and is monitoring the status of the fourth.
- Rehabilitation of city owned housing units:
 - o One of the properties owned by the city needs some repair, due in large part to water damage from a leaking roof. The city is currently determining whether the cost of repair and maintenance to that property exceeds anticipated value of the rental income over the next several years.
- Brownfield remediation:
 - o Expansion of Boerboom Park will require the demolition of the city owned properties on the block. Given the age of the buildings, it is anticipated that the City will have access to Hennepin County and State of Minnesota funds for brownfield remediation.

Amerman commented while the City waits to acquire the final property the master plan for Boerboom Park remains unchanged. When the City becomes aware of the opportunity to purchase the property it will begin gathering updated feedback, applying for outside funding, and working with the City Engineer to develop final plans.

Further discussion ensued regarding the draft park master plan.

Vickerman stated she was super excited about the City's plans. She appreciated the vision for this project and how this would greatly enhance the Movies and Music in the Park events.

11. UPCOMING EVENTS

Amerman reported he received an application from the Red Cross for the 2021 blood drive dates. He noted the first would be held on Wednesday, March 24, 2021.

Amerman explained a spring clean up day was being planned for Saturday, April 24, 2021.

12. STAFF & COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Amerman noted the next Parks and Recreation meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2021.

Amerman reported he was working with Rev Sports for summer programming. He noted this programming would begin in May.

Amerman explained the City reached the end of the Hennepin County tree grant and the last of the Minnesota Twins grant had been used to purchase new bleachers for Sipe Park.

Bonn reported Senior Jazzercise was on hold until the end of March. She indicated the yoga program has continued with masks and would be held every Monday at 4:30 p.m. at the Community Center.

Schulz stated Explore Osseo would be hosting a Valentine's event in downtown Osseo on Saturday February 13, 2021.

13. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made Thostenson, seconded by Quant, to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Guenther
Minute Maker Secretarial