



Parks and Recreation Commission
Meeting
August 07, 2023
7:00 PM
7071 University Avenue NE Fridley, MN 55432

Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. June 5, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

New Business

2. Initial Review of City Code Chapter 508 Parks and Parkways
3. Park Furnishing Deconstruction Guidelines

Old Business

Staff Reports

4. Springbrook Nature Center Report
5. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report
6. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Adjournment

Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in any City of Fridley services, programs, or activities. Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons who require auxiliary aids should contact the City at (763) 571-3450.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: August 7, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

June 5, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes of the June 5, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the June 5, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

- June 5, 2023 Parks and Recreation Minutes.

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



Park Commission Meeting (Work Session)

June 5, 2023

6:00 PM

Locke Park, 840 71st Avenue NE, Fridley MN 55432

Minutes

Call to Order

Chair Borman called the Parks and Recreation Commission work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present

EB Graham
 Peter Borman
 Tim Kirk
 Suad Maow
 Ken Schultz
 Don Whalen
 Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Absent

Luke Cardona

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for April 3, 2023

Motion by Commissioner Graham to approve the May 1, 2023 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda for June 5, 2023

Motion by Commissioner Schultz to approve the June 5, 2023 meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Locke Park Walking Tour

The Commissioners and Staff walked through the developed portion of Locke Park to discuss ideas for improvements and changes to the property once the City of Fridley assumes operation of the park in November of 2023.

Ideas for Park Features and Amenities:

- Exercise stations

- 9-hole disc golf course
- Possible community gardens
- Sand volleyball
- Expansion of dog park to include designated small dog area
- Singletrack mountain bike trail system
- Horseshoe pits

Trails

- Groom or plow trails in winter
- Create a loop on the south side of the creek

Natural Resource Management:

- Clear and maintain water trail on Rice Creek
- Clear and maintain invasive buckthorn

Signage and Wayfinding:

- Include "Civic Campus Playground" in Locke Park and install park sign
- Install directional signage along trails
- Consider interpretive signs along trails for nature education, invasive species, etc.
- Improve signage on University Ave and University Ave frontage road

Community Events, Education and Recreation:

- Concerts in the Park
- Movies in the Park
- Bounce house event
- Winterfest
- General encouragement for community events throughout year to increase awareness of park

Maintenance and Operations:

- Remove dumpster by dog park entrance
- Install irrigation around shelter 1 to improve and maintain turf grass
- Bathroom patrol
- Foot or bike patrol
- Spray for mosquitoes

Other Ideas and Notes:

- Promote park in City Newsletter
- Consider bike fleet programs in Locke Park and Rice Creek Trail
- Develop community survey
- Install benches along trail by creek
- Maintain geocaches in park

2. Parks and Recreation Commission 2023 Goals and Workplan Review

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Maher reviewed the 2023 Commission work plan with the Commission. Commissioners were invited to attend and participate in a series of four community engagement events to be held at parks to be improved in 2024. Events will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 pm. and event dates will be July 12 at Logan Park, July 27 at Plymouth Square Park, August 10 at Edgewater Gardens Park and August 24th at Sylvan Hills Park.

Two items were suggested for addition to the work plan including development of a disposition policy for park buildings and furnishings and to review/refine the development concept plan for Commons Park.

Old Business

Staff Reports

2. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Mr. Maher presented the Springbrook Nature Center report.

3. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Mr. Maher provided details on program enrollments, recent events, and staffing for the Recreation Division.

4. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Mr. Maher presented the park maintenance and construction report.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Borman at 8:55

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher
Parks and Recreation Director, City of Fridley



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: August 7, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Initial Review of City Code Chapter 508 Parks and Parkways

Background

The City of Fridley is in the process of a comprehensive review and update of City Code. Staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission are requested to provide input for consideration by the City Council. Final approval of the Code will be in 2024 or 2025 but may take several rounds of revisions to update the code chapter. Please note that City Code refers to rules and regulations that would be enforceable and with non-adherence being a misdemeanor.

Financial Impact

There is no current financial impact

Recommendation

Staff recommends the commission review City Code chapter 508 and provide an overview of specific ordinances that they would like staff to research, revise or update.

Attachments and Other Resources

- City Code Chapter 508 – Parks and Parkways

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

FRIDLEY CITY CODE
CHAPTER 508. PARKS AND PARKWAYS
(Ref. 270, 445, 5860, 618, 811, 1113, 1239, 1279, 1293, 1333)

508.01. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Chapter is to secure the quiet, orderly and suitable use and enjoyment of parks, parkways, and portions of public lands, streams and rivers within the City of Fridley by the residents of the City. Insofar as this Chapter relates to beaches, it is to be construed as supplementary to and not to supercede the existing provisions in Chapter 507 of this Code.

508.02. DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation and application of this Chapter and the following words and terms wherever they occur in this Chapter are defined as follows:

1. Commission.

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Fridley.

2. Parks.

Parks, parkways, playgrounds, recreation fields and buildings, lakes, streams, rivers, and beaches therein, and all public service facilities conducted on grounds, buildings and structures in the City of Fridley which are under the control of the Commission.

508.03. HOURS

Unless otherwise expressly authorized by law, no person shall be in or remain in or leave or park any vehicle in any park or drive in the City of Fridley between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Any person found violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

For purposes of this section, "park," as defined in Section 508.02.2 of this Code, shall also include any school playground located within the City of Fridley owned by a School District which has agreed, by resolution, to have its playground areas included under the provisions of this section and has posted the hours established herein prominently in the playground area or entrance.

This section shall not apply to persons in the City or school District who are attending, or leaving within one-half hour of the end of, any scheduled event conducted in any park, including buildings, as defined above. (Ref. Ord. 1113)

508.04. DEFACE

No person shall cut, break, scratch, mark, remove or in any way injure or deface any building, fence, pump, lamp, flagpole, construction improvement facility or any other feature of property upon or within any park.

508.05. FLOWERS AND SHRUBS

No one, who is not an employee of the City, shall pick or cut any wild or cultivated flower or cut, break, or in any way injure or deface any tree, shrub or plant within the limits of any park or carry within or out of any park any wild flower, tree, shrub, plant or portion thereof, or any soil or material of any kind.

508.06. KEEP OFF OF GRASS

No person shall go on foot or otherwise upon the grass or turf of any park where any sign prohibiting the same is posted.

508.07. THROWING STONES

No person shall throw or cast any stone or any other missile within any park.

508.08. LITTER

No person shall throw, deposit, place or leave in any park or waters therein, any paper, rubbish, waste or refuse of any kind, whether or not the same is offensive to the senses or is injurious to health, except in the receptacles therein provided for waste.

508.09. SELLING OBSTRUCTION

No person shall place or cause to remain in any park any goods, wares, merchandise or other articles that result in the obstruction of the free use and enjoyment of said park.

508.10. POSTING SIGNS

No person shall post, paste, fasten, paint or affix any unauthorized placard, bill, notice or sign upon any structure, tree, stone, fence, thing or enclosure along or within any park.

508.11. DISTRIBUTION OF CIRCULARS

No person shall distribute or display any circulars, cards, announcements, printed or otherwise, within any park, except as authorized by permit.

508.12. FIRECRACKERS

No person shall fire, explode or set off any squib, cracker or other thing containing powder or other combustible or explosive material within the limits of any park. Exhibitions of fireworks given under the direction of or by permission of the Commission shall, however, be allowed under this Section.

508.13. BIRDS

No person shall rob, injure or destroy any birds' nest within the limits of any park, nor aim or discharge any air gun, sling shot, bow and arrow, or any other weapon, or throw any stone or other missile at any birds' nest or wild animal within any park, nor in any manner capture or kill any bird or wild animal therein.

508.14. TRAPPING

No person shall at any time set, lay, prepare or have in their possession any trap, snare, artificial light, net bird line, ferret, or any contrivance whatsoever for the purpose of catching, taking or killing any bird or wild animal in any park.

508.15. BALL GAME RESTRICTIONS

No person shall play ball, golf, tennis or such other games which cause annoyance or inconvenience to other users of the park upon or within any park except upon ball, tennis or appropriate athletic grounds or golf links established by the Commission for such purpose.

508.16. FENCE RAIL

No person shall stand or sit on any fence rail or any other structure not intended for such use in any park.

508.17. MOVING BENCHES

No person shall move benches, seats or tables from their places in any park, except in picnic areas and then only within designated limits.

508.18. NO SPITTING

No person shall spit upon the floor or furnishings of any boat, canoe, building or walk in any park.

508.19. SALES

No person shall sell or offer for sale any article or thing whatsoever in any park, but this prohibition shall not apply to sales of refreshments and other articles by the City or under its direction at pavilions or stands conducted or authorized by the city.

508.20. PROFANITY

No threatening, profane, abusive, disorderly, insulting or indecent language, conduct or behavior, nor any act tending to cause a breach of the public peace, shall be allowed in or upon any park, nor shall any person play games of chance, drink intoxicating liquor, be drunk, or do any indecent, lascivious, lewd or improper act therein.

508.21. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE

It shall be unlawful for any persons to have in their possession or to consume any alcoholic beverage in or upon any City park or beach, except as provided below: (Ref 1293)

1. Notwithstanding laws to the contrary, possession and consumption of 3.2% malt liquor is permitted in Locke Park.
2. The City Council may grant permission to consume 3.2% malt liquor in City parks to neighborhood groups.
3. Notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, upon approval of the City Council and issuance of a temporary on-sale license for the sale of 3.2% malt liquor, a club, charitable, religious or nonprofit public or nonprofit private organization may sell and allow buyers to consume 3.2% malt liquor in Community Park. (Ref 1279)
4. Notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, upon approval of the City Council and issuance of a temporary on-sale liquor license, as provided for in Chapters 602 and 603 of the Fridley City Code, a club, charitable, religious or nonprofit organization may sell and allow buyers to consume malt liquor and wine at Commons Park and Community Park. Sale and consumption of strong beer and wine at Commons Park and Community Park shall be limited to that occurring during, and as part of, a community festival. Community festivals shall include Fridley 49er Days and other festivals of broad community appeal and participation as designated by City the Council. (Ref 1293)

5. Notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, malt liquor and wine may be sold and or consumed for receptions or social events within the Springbrook Nature Center Interpretive Building and or in an adjacent outdoor designated space allowed only by written agreement with the City under the following conditions (Ref 1293):

- A. Pursuant to a temporary on-sale intoxicating liquor license.
- B. Pursuant to a temporary on-sale 3.2% malt liquor license.
- C. Pursuant to a temporary consumption and display permit.
- D. A private party may contract with a liquor caterer licensed by the State of Minnesota under M.S. 340A.404, Subd. 12 and registered with the City, as required in Chapter 609 of this Code. The liquor caterer may provide food, malt liquor, and wine to their guests for consumption in the Springbrook Nature Interpretive Building and/or adjacent outdoor designated space as part of a social event.
- E. The holder of a retail on-sale intoxicating liquor license may dispense malt liquor and wine off the licensed premises at any convention, banquet, conference, meeting, or social affair conducted on the premises of the Springbrook Nature Center; however, the licensee is prohibited from dispensing malt liquor or wine to any person attending or participating in a youth amateur athletic event being held on the premises. A youth amateur athletic event, for the purposes of this section, is defined as an event whose participants are 18 years of age and younger.

508.22. DOGS

No person shall be permitted to take any dog into any park unless it is led by a suitable leash and in no case shall any person allow or bring any dog owned or attended by such person into any park waters or into any bird or animal refuge or upon any skating rink or in any park building whether the dog is leashed or otherwise.

508.23. ANIMALS

Cattle, horses, mules, swine, sheep, goats or fowl shall not be allowed upon park property or in any lake or waters of any park and all owners or attendants of such animals shall prevent such occurrences, but this prohibition shall not apply to animals or fowl kept by the City under its direction.

508.24. UNATTENDED ANIMALS

No person shall tie or fasten any animal to any tree, shrub, plant, fence, building or structure in or upon any park.

508.25. PARADES

No band, procession, military company or any company with flags, banners or transparencies shall be allowed in or upon any park except with a written permit issued by the City.

508.26. ENTERTAINMENT

No entertainment or exhibition shall be given in any park except entertainment given under the direction or authority of the Commission.

508.27. PUBLIC SPEAKING

No public meeting of any kind shall be held in any park, playground or athletic field, nor shall there be any public speaking therein without a written registration with the City.

508.28. FIRES

1. No person, except an agent of the City, shall start any fire in any park, except that wall charcoal fires for culinary purposes in stoves provided in the parks by the Commission may be made by picnic parties in the areas designated by the Commission. Open pit fires for culinary purposes shall be allowed in Locke Park only.
2. Every person who starts any such fire and every person using such fire shall completely extinguish such fire or fires before leaving such park.

508.29. RULES

The Commission may establish from time to time other rules and regulations governing the further use and enjoyment of parks, playgrounds, lakes, streams and facilities thereof which shall be effective upon passage by the Commission. At the discretion of the Commission, regulations may be posted at particular facilities under its control. A copy of all rules and regulations shall be available for review in the office of the Parks and Recreation Director. Persons who shall violate such rules or regulations or who refuse to subject themselves thereto, may be, in addition to all other penalties provided by this Code, excluded from the use of such facilities.

508.30. TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

The motor vehicle regulations or traffic regulations applicable to the City streets within the City of Fridley shall be applicable in all respects to the ownership, use and occupancy of motor vehicles in the areas under the control of the Commission. The Police, or duly authorized agents thereof, may remove any vehicle found in violation of said regulations or which remain in said areas after closing hours.

508.31. TOWING

1. No driver of any vehicle shall tow behind or on the side or push in front of it any toboggan, sled, ice skates, roller skates, bicycle, coaster, toy vehicle or any other sliding or coasting device, nor permit any persons in or upon such device to attach same or themselves to said vehicle nor permit any person to board or alight from nor hang onto said vehicle then in motion.
2. Persons riding in or upon said devices in violation of this Section shall be held in violation of this Chapter.

508.32. ROADWAYS

No motor vehicle or snowmobile shall be permitted to drive on or upon park lands except roadways, parking lots, and areas designated by the Commission, except such motor vehicles or snowmobiles operated by the City of Fridley or under their direction for park maintenance or Emergency purposes. (Ref. 445)

508.33. VEHICLE FOR SALE SIGNS

No person shall drive or park any vehicle upon any park displaying a sign indicating that it is for sale or exchange or otherwise displaying advertising.

508.34. WASHING

No person shall wash, grease or repair any vehicle on any park or boulevard except such repairs as are required by an emergency.

508.35. IMPOUNDING CARS

Any unoccupied motor vehicle or snowmobile found in violation of the provisions of this Chapter may be immediately removed and impounded by any police officer or duly authorized person in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter. (Ref. 445)

508.36. PERMITS

The City may authorize the issuance of permits for uses and activities in which the holders thereof request permission to do any of the following: (a) to remain in the parks during otherwise prohibited hours; (b) to post notices; or (c) to park vehicles in otherwise unauthorized areas.

508.37. PENALTIES

Any violation of this Chapter is a misdemeanor and is subject to all penalties provided for such violations under the provisions of Chapter 901 of this Code.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: August 7, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Park Furnishing Deconstruction Guidelines

Background

The Parks and Recreation Commission has requested that staff present options for disposal of park furnishings, especially playground equipment, as parks are renovated throughout the Park System Improvement Plan. An operational guideline document, showing a hierarchy of options for equipment disposal is attached for review and discussion. Financial and environmental responsibility are prioritized as well as adherence with City policy and State statutes regarding disposal of surplus property.

Financial Impact

Demolition costs for a typical Fridley playground have averaged around \$10,000. Some options for disposal, such as donation to non-profits or public auction may come at no cost to the City or could provide modest revenue, with several local examples of auctioned neighborhood playgrounds in the \$5,000-\$10,000 range.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the approval of the Park System Improvement Plan Deconstruction Guidelines as presented or with specified edits approved by the Commission

Attachments and Other Resources

- Park System Improvement Plan Deconstruction Guidelines

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



Park System Improvement Plan Deconstruction Guidelines

Best Practices for Socially and Environmentally Responsible Deconstruction of City of Fridley Parks Undergoing Renovation





PSIP Deconstruction Guidelines

Purpose

The City of Fridley (City) is undertaking an extensive renovation of its park system under the Park System Improvement Plan (PSIP). As parks are redeveloped, the City will coordinate the removal and disposal of park equipment and materials that are no longer in service.

The State of Minnesota has developed a regional strategy for solid waste management under the *Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Policy Plan* that includes a material management hierarchy based on the impact to natural resources and public health. Additionally, the City's *Financial Management Policy Manual* outlines a surplus property and equipment to manage used property equipment in a manner that is fiscally responsible and reduces harmful environmental impacts. While the document does not directly pertain to park equipment and materials, many of the manual's guidelines can be carried through.

This document contains a PSIP-specific deconstruction framework that integrates both policy documents as well as an updatable directory of potential disposal locations for consideration (Appendix A). When requests for proposals or bids are solicited for park projects as part of the PSIP, respondents should provide information as to how they will follow this framework.

Deconstruction Framework for Park Property and Materials

The City's deconstruction framework prioritizes the salvage and reuse of equipment and materials where possible. The following options should be considered in order of most to least preferred:

1. **Reuse within City properties:** Salvageable equipment and materials may be transferred to other properties owned by the City.
2. **Reuse with a financial benefit to the City:** Salvageable equipment and materials may be traded in or sold by public auction for reuse. The sale shall be to the highest entity offering the greatest financial benefit to the City.
3. **Reuse with no financial benefit or to the City:** Salvageable equipment and materials may be given at no cost for the purpose of reuse. Items may be donated to eligible organizations as outlined in the *Financial Management Policy Manual*. If the Fair Market Value of the equipment or materials is deemed less than the cost to dispose or recycle it, the City may also solicit offers from entities to acquire the equipment or materials at no cost.
4. **Reuse with a financial cost to the City:** The City may pay a third-party entity to facilitate the reuse of salvageable equipment and materials. The payment for reuse shall be limited to the labor and transportation costs necessary to remove the item from City property.



PSIP Deconstruction Guidelines

5. **Recycling with a financial benefit to the City:** Non-salvageable property and materials may be traded in or sold for recycling.
6. **Recycling with no financial benefit to the City:** Non-salvageable property or materials may be given for no cost for the purpose of recycling.
7. **Recycling with a financial cost to the City:** The City may pay a third-party entity to recycle equipment or materials.
8. **Landfill disposal:** The City may pay for the permanent disposal of non-salvageable items in a landfill

Procedure

During the park planning process, all equipment and materials to be removed shall be identified. The following procedures apply to the disposal of the equipment and material in conformance with the *Financial Management Policy Manual*

- Park equipment and materials for donation or no-cost reuse shall be posted on the City's website for a minimum of 30 days.
- Organizations or entities receiving park material or equipment shall fill out a Surplus Equipment Form and submit the form to the City Manager or their designee
- If more than one Eligible Organizations requests a donation for the same equipment or materials, the City shall consider factors it deems relevant including how the Surplus Equipment will be used, the benefit to the Eligible Organization, the impact on the City, how the Donation will accomplish goals of the City Council, and any previous Donation to the Eligible Organization.
- All City employees and officials are prohibited from taking possession of equipment or equipment or materials for personal use or on behalf of an Eligible Organization.
- The exchange of equipment or materials for reuse is made with no warranty, guarantee, or representation of any kind, express or implied, as to the condition, utility, or usability of the equipment or materials as offered. The equipment and materials may be defective and cannot be relied up for safety purposes. The New Owner shall sign the Disclaimer of Warranties Form prior to acquiring equipment and materials for reuse.
- The City Manager shall cause any title or other ownership documents to be transferred to the New Owner at the time of transfer. Any fees required for the transfer the Surplus Equipment and Surplus Property are the responsibility of the New Owner.



Appendix A- Potential Disposal Locations

1. Reuse with a financial benefit to the City:
 - www.auctionmasters.com
 - <https://www.bid-2-buy.com/>
 - <https://www.k-bid.com/>
 - www.PropertyRoom.com

2. Donation
 - <https://kidsaroundtheworld.com/>

3. Reuse with no financial benefit or with a financial cost to the City
 - <https://www.thebirchgroup.org/>
 - <https://bauerbrosinc.com/product-category/playgrounds/>
 - <https://restore.tchabitat.org/donate>
 - <https://betterfuturesminnesota.com/>
 - <https://www.mnexchange.org/#/>



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: August 7, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Tara Rogness, Springbrook Nature Center Manager

Title

Springbrook Nature Center Report

Background

Attached is the update from Springbrook Nature Center for the August 7, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Springbrook Nature Center Update for August 7, 2023 meeting

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

Springbrook Nature Center Park & Rec Commission Report

May Highlights

- This month, the **nature center staff taught more than 2,800 students!**
- Our **Fridley partnership** teaching included Kindergarten field trip (habitat exploration), Kindergarten in-class lessons on recycling, First grade field trip (pond exploration and life cycles), First Grade in class lesson on butterfly life cycles and planting seeds for wildlife, and Fridley Preschool field trip (habitats).
- Our **Adams partnership** teaching included Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade, Fourth Grade and Fifth Grade. The topics covered were rocks, survival shelters, survival fires, insects, fungus, and plants.
- There were a variety of **preschool programs** this month. St. Stephen's preschool, Family of Christ preschool, Kids on the Move, and New Creations preschool. They covered many topics including pond study, habitats, and insects.
- **Nature Preschool Club** finished up their spring session. 12 4-5 year olds learned about ponds, insects, habitats, birds, senses, and much more this spring.
- **Highview Middle School** sent 180 8th graders out to play a game of Predator Prey along the nature center trails.
- **Davinci Academy** brought students to Springbrook this month. Their 2nd graders came out to learn about Insects, and their 8th graders learned about Pioneer Life.
- **Bolder Options** brought out teen/adult pairs to learn about and practice Archery.
- **Robbinsdale Elementary** of Engineering and Arts came out to learn about Forests, Prairies, and Wetlands.
- **Madison Elementary** brought out their Kindergarteners to learn about Pond Life.
- **Rice Lake Elementary** had a visit from our naturalists to learn about Reptiles and Amphibians.
- **Rum River Elementary** learned about Animal Adaptations, Animal Survival and Habitats.
- **Cedar Island Elementary** had naturalists on their site to teach about Reptiles and Amphibians.

June Highlights

- **Rum River Elementary** came out with 125 2nd graders to learn about animal habitats.
- **Wilshire Park Elementary** brought 88 1st graders to learn about insects.
- **St. Stephen's School** brought 42 5th graders to learn about and participate in the Orienteering and GPS courses.
- Cody had about 4 people on his first **Birding By Bike** program. (You should join him next time!)
- Dina and Katy went to **Adams Elementary** for an offsite program about animal habitats for children learning to speak English.
- Tara presented to 40 participants of **Fridley's Safety Camp** (a joint program between Fridley Parks and Rec and Fridley Public Safety.) They learned about how to stay warm, cool, and aware of their surroundings by learning about strategies animals use to do those things.

- Summer Camps are in full swing. We have a nearly full summer camp program this year. So far we have seen campers in Wild Child, Camp Classics, Wetlands and Wild Things, Epic Eras, Bush Craft, Beast Lore, Adventure Camp, and two weeks of Preschool Camps.

Upcoming this Season

- **Friday Night by Firelight** is coming this September. Bring the entire family to these educational and entertaining events. (Topics are still being finalized, more information will be found on the Springbrook website) Funding has been provided by the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation.

Grants

- We have been awarded the Xcel Energy Grant for \$7,500. The grant project is an **Interactive Stream Workshop**. We hope to install a water feature stream laboratory just outside of the Nature Play Area that will allow students to study how water moves, how it has the power to erode and change the landscape.
- Springbrook Nature Center has been awarded a **MN DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant** for a \$150,000 increase funding for the Nature Play Area project. We are excited to begin work on an expanded nature-based play area.



Park & Building Maintenance

- We are moving forward with an installation of a patio and free standing fireplace adjacent to the existing picnic shelter. Funds have been donated by Joe and Irene Maertens, Fridley Lions, and the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation. We hope to begin construction in mid-September with completion in mid-October. Fingers crossed it will be ready to go in time for use at this year's Pumpkin Carving events!



Katy Dahl & Dina Cyrus

Events

- Migration Celebration took place in May. It was a successful program focused on celebrating migration birds with educational vendors, activities, hikes, and live birds. About 200 hearty Minnesotans braved the less than stellar weather and enjoyed learning about birds!

Staffing Updates

- Dina has left the building (as they say). Her last day was June 30th. We are grateful for her talents, enthusiasm, teamwork, and for being a light in the office. She will be missed.
- Katy has started in the role of Interpretive Program Coordinator. She has been able to hit the ground running with the summer camp program and is already handling veterinary issues in the animal room like a champ! She's a great fit and is doing great things already!



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: August 7, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Margo Numedahl, Recreation Division Manager

Title

Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Background

Attached is the update from the Parks and Recreation Department for the August 7, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Attached is the update from the Parks and Recreation Department for the August 7, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation Division: June - July 2023

Summer Programs

Below is a list of programs and participation numbers for the first session of Summer programs which ran from June through mid-July.

PRESCHOOL: Ages 3-5

Soccer (4 sessions) – 2 classes	27
Track & Field (4 sessions) – 1 class	13
T-ball (4 sessions) – 1 class	15
Games & Sports (4 sessions) – 1 class	14

ELEMENTARY – MIDDLE SCHOOL: Grades K-7

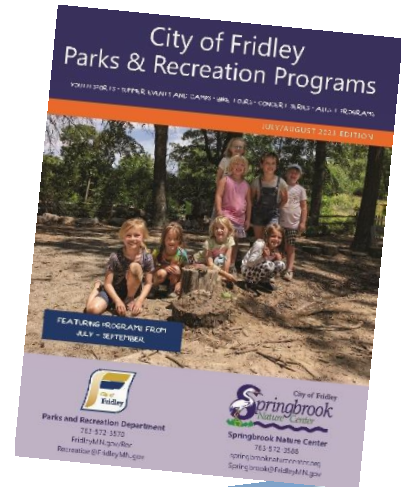
Soccer (4 sessions) – 1 class	15
Track & Field (4 sessions) – 1 class	15
Baseball (4 sessions) – 1 class	16
Tennis (4 sessions) – 2 classes	15
Safety Camp	40
ROCKS Weekly Enrollment (weeks 1-6): 40, 46, 49, 45, 55, 49	

ADULT FITNESS & ATHLETICS

Zumba (2 classes/6 sessions each): May - Jul	11
Pickleball Live Play Coaching (4 sessions): Jun (6 – Fridley, 6 - SLP)	12
Pickleball For Beginners (4 sessions): Jul – Aug (4 – Fridley; 4 - SLP)	8
Summer Pickleball League All Ages: May – Aug (21 – Fridley; 19 – SLP)	40
Summer Pickleball League 20-35: Jun - Aug (14 – Fridley; 1 – SLP)	15
Co-Rec Sand Volleyball: Jun - Aug (4 – Fridley; 4 – SLP; 4 – NB; 6 – MV)	18 teams
55+ Golf League: May – Aug	19

ALL AGES

Birding by Bike	5
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Parks and Recreation Brochure

The July/August brochure was mailed to residents beginning on June 26. Staff have completed the content for the September/October brochure and it is currently being finalized with the designer and will be mailed out at the end of August.

Fridley '49er Days Parade and Festival

The Fridley '49er Days Committee held a successful parade and festival with the support of the City, Fridley School District, Fridley Lions Club and many community sponsors on June 15 – 17. An estimated 4,500 people enjoyed the many activities throughout the festival. The committee did a great job of fundraising this year and all of the activities were offered free of charge creating an event that everyone in the community could attend. All of the events were well attended and enjoyed.

Sponsors

- Fridley Lions Club
- City of Fridley
- Fridley Public Schools
- Northern Stacks
- American Legion
- Shortstop Bar & Grill
- Anoka County Library
- Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment
- Twin Cities Gateway
- RAO Manufacturing Company
- Coldwell Banker Erin Callahan
- Wild Vintage Collective
- Willows Bend Senior Living
- Blaine Festival
- Friendly Chevrolet
- Fridley Rotary
- Schmit Towing
- Bob's Produce
- Forgotten Star Brewing
- Allina Health
- Miller Funeral Home
- The Landmark of Fridley
- Magic Brad
- Custom Graphix

Thursday, June 15

Pre-Parade Party

Commons Park | 4-7 p.m.

We had a great turn out for the party, an estimated 700 people participated in the kids activities, inflatable bouncers, slides and obstacles, food trucks, vendors and more!



Fun Run

The Fridley Fun Run began at 6:25 p.m. Runners completed the parade route in front of the Fridley '49er Days Parade.



Fridley Lions '49er Parade

The '49er Days Parade had about 50 units and the community came out to watch and enjoy! An estimated 600-700 people participated in the parade and an additional 1,400-1,600 audience members.



Friday, June 16

MSMA Car Show

Friendly Chevrolet | 5-8 p.m.

The Car Show was a success with an estimated attendance of 400 people. Money was raised for the Fridley Youth Wrestling Association. All enjoyed the new location, music by Tunes to Go and food trucks as well.



Fridley Youth Baseball Tournament & Movie on the Field

Community Park | 4-11 p.m.

The Inaugural Mike Spencer Heart of Gold 12U/13U Baseball Tournament was held Friday night and concluded on Saturday. The 6 p.m. game was kicked off with a flag ceremony, message honoring Mike Spencer, and the first pitch was thrown by a Mike Spencer Foundation representative. Sixteen teams participated in the tournament.



Following the games on Friday Night Fridley Youth Baseball hosted the Movie on the Field. About 150 people came out to the field to watch the Sandlot! The event was sponsored by Shortstop Bar & Grill - Fridley, Giuseppe's Italian Restaurante, Shore 96, Coldwell Banker - Dave Ryan, Erin Callahan & Jim Stangler, State Farm - Mike Hoffman, Elysian Bank, Mike Spencer Foundation, Friendly Chevrolet, American Bikers Association, and Fridley Parks & Recreation.



Saturday, June 17

Music and More & Fireworks

Commons Park | 2-10 p.m.

A wide variety of activities were offered for. An estimated 1,000 people came out to the park for the wide variety of activities, music, food and fireworks!

- Inflatable Bouncers and Games | 2-7 p.m.
- Bingo | 2-3 p.m.
- Art Market and Vendors | 2-7 p.m.
- Food Trucks | 2-10 p.m.
- Kid's Activities (petting zoo, pony rides, face and henna painting) | 2:30-5:30 p.m.
- Youth Sports Clinic | 3-5 p.m.
- Beer and Wine | 4-10 p.m.
- Flag Retirement Collection | 2-10 p.m.
- Mingling Magicians | 4-6 p.m.
- Salsa Del Soul Band & Dance Instruction | 4-6:30 p.m.
- All School Class Reunion | 6-10 p.m.
- Power of 10 Band | 7-10 p.m.
- Magic Brad Performance | 8:30 p.m.
- Fireworks | Dusk



Fridley 49er Committee Members

President – Jo Young

Secretary – Angie Nolan

Treasurer – Gordon Backlund

Volunteers/Marketing – Stacy Nealy

Sports Clinic – Don Traczyk

Fridley Schools Liaison – Stephen Keeler



Social Media – Brad Gudim
 Baseball Tournament – Jim Stangler
 City Liaisons – Margo Numedahl and Mike Maher

Summer Concert Series

We have held three summer concerts so far this summer at the Civic Campus Amphitheater and Plaza. The Civic Campus concerts have averaged approximately 200 attendees per concert in the hot summer! Concert goers have enjoyed the wonderful music, along with games from our Rec 'N Roll mobile and food has been available for purchase from local food trucks. We look forward to upcoming Civic Campus concerts in August that will also include a celebration of water on August 8 in partnership with Fridley's Environmental Dept, local watersheds, and the library and an afropop concert on August 22 that will highlight EV vehicles. We hope you can join us for these great community get-togethers!



Music in Our Parks

Fridley Parks and Recreation has partnered with the Fridley City Band to offer additional concert opportunities for our residents! The City Band has performed six concerts on Monday nights in city parks—Edgewater Gardens, Logan, Briardale and Springbrook Nature Center. Both residents and band members enjoyed the concerts with the beautiful backdrop of our city parks!

Summer ROCKS (Recreation Opportunities for Creative Kids in the Summer)

Our summer day camp, ROCKS, has been in full swing since June 13 at the Fridley Middle School and Commons Park. We have three age groups (Grades K-1, 2-3 & 4-6) and each week we have been near capacity! Kids enjoy morning classes (sports, STEM, art & crafts) and afternoons involve playground time, games & crafts at Commons Park, and each day ends with free time back at the Middle School. On Wednesdays, we have field trips and special events that have included: Padelford River Boats, Stages Theater, MN Zoo, Wet & Wild Water Party and Jolly Pops concert. The kids (and staff) are having a blast!

Rec 'n Roll

Rec N Roll returned this summer. This mobile recreation program visits 4 different parks each week. This summer we are meeting at Madsen, Commons, Ruth Circle, and Flanery parks on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Rec N' Roll offers free games, crafts, and snacks to those who visit.

Seasonal Staff

We held our summer staff training June 4-12. We are happy to report that we have 22 seasonal staff this summer, and they are enjoying working and are asking for more hours! Over 80% of our staff are returning staff, most of who are high school students going into 10th or 11th grade. They have been doing a great job with our programs, and it's been wonderful to watch them grow and do better each week! Many are interested in continuing to work for us in the Fall. In this extremely tight job market, we are very proud of the amount and quality of our seasonal workers, and look forward to welcoming them again next summer, and continuing our partnership with the Career Program at Fridley High School.

Youth Evening Sports

The first session of youth evening sports ran through the months of June and July on Monday – Thursday evenings. We offered five different classes designed to introduce kids to the sport and give them a positive social environment to learn the fundamentals and have fun. Classes offered include: Soccer, Tennis, T-ball, Baseball, Track & Field, and Games & Sports. Nearly all of the classes offered have filled and we have had to add extra staff to accommodate waiting lists. Our next session begins at the end of July and runs through August.

Wet & Wild Water Party

Wet & Wild Water Party was held on July 12! Staffed stations were set up for sandcastle building, splash ball launcher, sprinklers, and active water games. With the help of the Fridley Firefighters, we set up the giant slip n' slide on the Commons Park hill and the fire engine sprayed water in the air to soak the kids at the end of the event. Groups from Summer ROCKS, Spring Lake Park Recreation, Tiger Club, and registered participants all attending this event totaling 175 participants.



Senior Golf League

The Fridley Senior Golf League is running at the Brightwood Hills Golf course. The league has 19 participants paired in teams of two. Teams play against each other each week for standings. This league will conclude on August 31 with a end of season tournament and banquet.

Pickleball Ladder League

With the growing popularity of pickleball, our Pickleball Ladder League has become even more popular this summer. Ladder leagues aim to accommodate players of all skill levels and pair players with similarly skilled opponents from week to week by calculating wins and losses. We have partnered with Spring Lake Park Recreation to pool registrations and share facilities. A total of 65 participants are enrolled in the May – August leagues.

Adult Sand Volleyball League

The North Metro Sand Volleyball League has been running this summer. Fridley Parks and Recreation has partnered with Spring Lake Park, New Brighton, and Mounds View to pool registrations, share facility, and split officiating fees. Eighteen teams are participating in this co-ed league played City Hall Park in Mounds View, Able Park in Spring Lake Park, and Commons Park in Fridley. Enrollment has increased by eight teams from last year. The league ends September 6.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: August 7, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager – Streets, Parks, and Facilities

Title

Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Background

Attached is the Park Maintenance and Construction report for the August 7, 2023 meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Park Maintenance Report for August 7, 2023 meeting

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



Memorandum

Item 6.

Date: 07/26/23
To: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
From: Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager, Streets, Parks, Facilities
DEPT: Public Works
CC: Margo Numedahl, Parks and Recreation Manager
RE: Parks and Recreation Commission Report for August 7th, 2023 Meeting

The Parks Department has working on our full summer schedule including mowing, landscaping, athletic field prep and shelter prep. Over the last two months Parks Department has been very busy working on projects at Civic Campus Plaza West getting power installed, landscaping and restoration. The Street Department paved the new path so there will be some more restoration and planting to be done and hopefully get some benches installed yet this year.

The crews have been removing trees, concrete slabs, sidewalks and a basketball court prepping for construction for Ed Wilmes and Skyline.

The fireplace has been approved for SNC so crews will finish removing stumps and prepping for installation in September. Woodchips were added to trails and we are working on replacing boards on the boardwalk. We will also remove and prep for a new bridge install in September as well.

Crews have been also trying to keep up with watering all plantings with very dry conditions this summer including the green roof at SNC.