



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

November 06, 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.](#) October 2, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

New Business

- [2.](#) Locke Park Improvement Plan Outline Discussion
- [3.](#) Moore Lake Community Building Rental Fees and Policies Discussion
- [4.](#) Pumpkin Night in the Park 2023 Event Report

Old Business

Staff Reports

- [5.](#) Springbrook Nature Center Report
- [6.](#) Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report
- [7.](#) 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: November 6, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

October 2, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes of the October 2, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the October 2, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

- October 2, 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

October 2, 2023

7:00 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Avenue NE

Minutes

Call to Order

Chair Borman called the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present

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

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda for October 2, 2023

Motion by Commissioner Schultz to approve the October 2, 2023 meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for September 5, 2023

Motion by Commissioner Graham to approve the September 5, 2023 meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Maow. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. City of Fridley 75th Anniversary Celebration Discussion

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Maher stated that next year will be a landmark anniversary for the City of Fridley and staff is looking for ideas to celebrate. He provided some possible ideas relating to parks and recreation.

Commissioner Whalen suggested including some of the other parks that have been updated as well.

Mr. Maher confirmed that this was just a starting point, and they could make additional suggestions in the future as well. He confirmed that 49er Days will be having special activities and events in 2024 as well.

2. Community Engagement Summaries for 2024 Park Projects – Edgewater Gardens and Sylvan Hills Parks

Mr. Maher explained that community engagement is conducted for parks the summer before they are planned to be improved, therefore in 2023 they held community meetings for four parks planned for improvement in 2024. He noted that at the last meeting, they reviewed the results of the first two parks and tonight they would review the summaries from the other two parks. He provided an overview of the Edgewater Gardens concept plan and related input received on those proposed elements. He noted that the neighborhood felt that on-street parking was sufficient and that a permanent bathroom was not desired.

Chair Borman asked for input on tennis court versus pickleball, noting that two pickleball courts could fit into one tennis court. Commissioner Cardona asked if they could do just pickleball at this park. Mr. Maher replied that would be to the discretion of the Commission to make that recommendation. He explained that the concept was based on input received during the parks planning process but some things may have changed since that time. He noted that during this last round of engagement there was support for pickleball only. The Commission supported pickleball only at this park.

Mr. Maher stated that different concepts were reviewed for playgrounds and concept A received 25 votes compared to six votes for concept B. He also provided input on the comments received related to exercise equipment along with information on potential users, lifespan, and cost.

Motion by Commissioner Cardona to recommend playground concept A for Edgewater Gardens Park. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Cardona to recommend up to two pickleball courts for Edgewater Gardens Park. Seconded by Commissioner Kirk. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Cardona to recommend the use of Healthbeat fitness equipment for Edgewater Gardens Park. Seconded by Commissioner Schultz. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Graham to recommend exclusion of the optional permanent indoor restroom parking and formal parking. Seconded by Commissioner Cardona. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Maher reviewed the input received through community engagement for Sylvan Hills. Chair Borman noted that there was a lot of input related to the desire to keep the tennis court and the spring riding toy. Mr. Maher noted that for the playground concepts, there were 25 votes in favor of concept B and six votes for concept A.

Motion by Commissioner Graham to recommend playground concept B for Sylvan Hills Park. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Cardona to recommend support for a tennis court with pickleball overlay in addition to a basketball court Sylvan Hills Park. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Schultz to recommend exclusion of the challenge piece and to include a spring ride toy. Seconded by Commissioner Cardona. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Parks and Recreation Commission 2023 Goals and Workplan Review

Mr. Maher reviewed the 2023 accomplishments and provided a brief outlook on the items proposed for 2023-2024.

Chair Borman stated that he would like to continue to check in with youth sports and other park users to ensure needs are being met. He suggested that occurs each spring. Commissioner Cardona stated that he would be interested in seeing user numbers for those activities when that presentation is provided.

Commissioner Maow stated that she would be interested in an update on the park property the City is taking over from the County through the dissolution of the JPA. Mr. Maher noted that is scheduled to change hands in November and noted that the City would intend to begin operations of the park in November. He noted that would be an ongoing priority for the next number of years.

Old Business

Staff Reports

4. Springbrook Nature Center Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of the report, noting the transition from summer camp programs and into fall. He also provided an update on some planned improvements for the park. He noted the upcoming Pumpkin Night in the Park which will be held on October 21st.

5. Fridley Parks and Recreation Division Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of the report noting that fall programming is in full swing. He also noted the success of the City Hall celebration that was recently held at the campus.

6. Park Maintenance and Construction Report

Mr. Maher provided an update on the progress of park maintenance and construction projects.

Unfinished Business

None

Adjournment

Commissioner Graham made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Staple
Recording Secretary



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 6, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Locke Park Improvement Plan Outline Discussion

Background

The City of Fridley has terminated a joint powers agreement with Anoka County to expire on November 15, 2023. The City of Fridley will assume maintenance, operations, and future planning for this park property. In June of 2023, the Fridley Parks and Recreation Commission met at the park to discuss ideas for operations and future improvements. A summary of feedback from the commission as well as public comments accepted through community engagement done by both the City of Fridley and Anoka County is presented for discussion and comment from the Commissioners.

Financial Impact

None at this time.

Recommendation

Staff presents no recommendations at this time.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Locke Park Improvement Plan Document

Vision Statement

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



Locke Park Improvement Plan **DRAFT**

September 15, 2023



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

Locke Park Improvement Plan

Background

The City of Fridley provided notification to Anoka County of termination of a joint powers agreement for the operation of Locke Park, a City of Fridley property that had been operated and maintained by Anoka County. The City of Fridley will take over operations and maintenance of the park on, or around, November 15, 2023.

Questions to Clarify Before Transfer of Responsibility for Operations

- City of Fridley to be responsible for maintenance of the Rice Creek West Regional Trail which runs through city property with Anoka County responsible for remainder of trail maintenance.
- Will existing garbage and recycling facilities remain?
- Removal of dumpster
- Future of archery range. Should alternative location be considered?
- How will the status of the City of Fridley's legislation to be recognized as a regional park implementing agency impact the status of the park as a regional park?
- Is the park suitable for use as a police K-9 training area for the City of Fridley?
- Which agency will be responsible for removal of existing signage?
- How will utility billing be transferred – water, electricity.
- Do reports exist for playground inspection?
- Is there a natural resources management plan? Invasive species? Current grants or agreements relating to the park?
- Would the small shelter be impacted as is listed as suggestion in trail master plan?

Operations

Locke Park will be operated under the policies and standards of the City of Fridley park system. Open hours will be from sunrise to 10 pm. The City of Fridley will manage rental of park shelters and other park conditional uses.

Shelter rental will be coordinated and managed by the City of Fridley.

Large shelter rental – 150 person capacity

Small shelter rental – 50 person capacity

Portable restrooms will need to be on hand at large shelter/playground, small shelter, and dog park.

Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

Maintenance

Locke Park will be maintained according to the City of Fridley Park Maintenance Standards.

Specific concerns and issues that have been requested include:

- Plowed or packed trails for winter use – walking, fat tire biking, XC skiing, snowshoeing.
- Improved lighting
- Plow road to large shelter
- Consider making indoor restrooms available for daily use – how will rental groups get access to restrooms?
- Management of dead, dying or diseased trees

Locke Park Improvement Plan

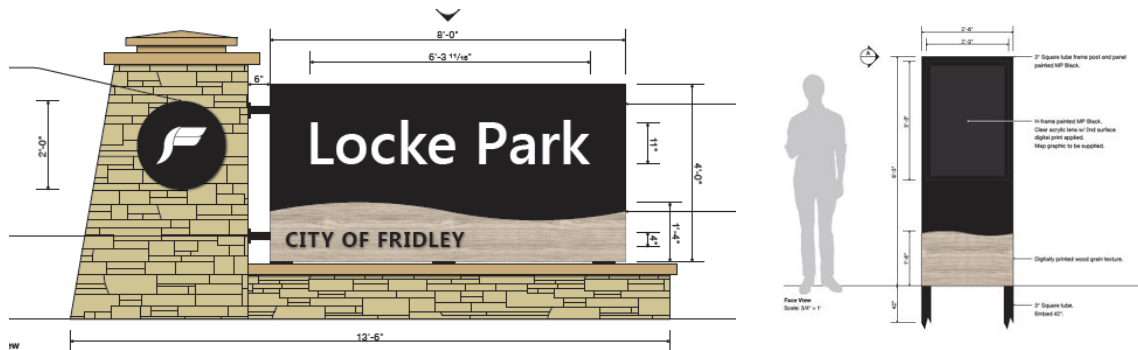
City of Fridley

Future Improvements Phase 1 – 2023-2025

1. Signage and Basic Trail Improvements (\$15,000)

- New entrance monument sign
- Improve access and views to Rice Creek
- Determine Fridley's role and responsibility in maintaining Rice Creek as a water trail for recreational activities

Park signage to change from Anoka County to City of Fridley and to include a monument sign, park rules signs, dog park sign, maps and wayfinding and interpretive signage



Trail signage to provide wayfinding and distance measurements. Sign or obscure unmaintained trails. Collaborate with Anoka County to provide clear wayfinding for regional trail system.

Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

2. Dog Park Improvements (\$40,000)

- a. Add designated small dog area
- b. Add play and training elements
- c. Install drinking water and dog bowl filling station

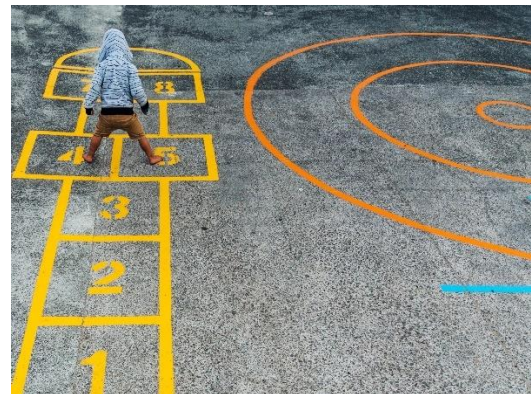


Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

3. Amenities for Picnic and Play

- a. Sand volleyball court (\$5,000)
- b. Ga Ga Ball court (\$5,000)
- c. Commercial-grade yard game installations; horseshoes, bag toss, etc.
- d. Small play court for four square, hopscotch, etc.
- e. Updated playground for picnic area (\$350,000)



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

4. Lighting and Security Improvements

- a. **Bollard lighting at points of interest and high traffic areas**
- b. **Security cameras added to main pavilion and restroom building**
- c. **Possible park entrance gate to close at 10 pm**
- d. **Increased presence and cooperation from Fridley Public Safety Department**



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

5. Raise Awareness through Programs and Events

- a. Adventure camps and field trips
- b. Cultural celebrations
- c. After school programs
- d. Summer Friday programs (SNC camps to be M-Th)
- e. Community gardens and gardening education programs; edible orchard
- f. Add Locke Park to Adopt-a-Park program
- g. Activity backpack checkout from Civic Campus
- h. Zumba
- i. "I can" programs – camping, slacklining, campfire cooking, etc.
- j. Slacklining
- k. Snowshoeing
- l. Campfire programs
- m. Fridley employee enrichment and wellness initiatives
- n. Capture the flag, other organized games – nerf war, laser tag
- o. GPS, navigation, orienteering, geocaching, scavenger hunts
- p. Buckthorn removal
- q. Outdoor escape room
- r. Birding and natural history hikes
- s. Solstice program, candlelight hikes
- t. Bark in the Park, Puppy playtime
- u. Kids biathlon or triathlon, run, bike, archery
- v. Bike programming; learn to bike, safety, group rides, intro to MTB
- w. Winter recreation – XC Ski, fat tire bikes, snowshoeing, kick sleds
- x. Environmental fun fair
- y. Arbor day and tree planting programming
- z. Senior summer camp



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

6. Amenity and Operational Upgrades

- a. Consider screened enclosures for portable restrooms
- b. Consider construction of a dumpster enclosure if dumpster is to remain
- c. Install bike repair station
- d. Dog waste bag stations
- e. Additional benches along hiking trails



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

7. Volunteer Program and Community Engagement

- a. Add Locke Park to Adopt-A-Park program
- b. Engage volunteers in habitat restoration
- c. Explore informal “friends group” establishment for Locke Park or Fridley Parks



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

Mid-range Improvements 2025 – 2027

1. Pump Track and Skate Park (\$250,000 - \$400,000)



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

2. Trail Reconfigurations to Meet ADA (Cost Unknown)

- a. Improve trail grades to meet ADA standards
- b. Evaluate bridges for replacement as needed



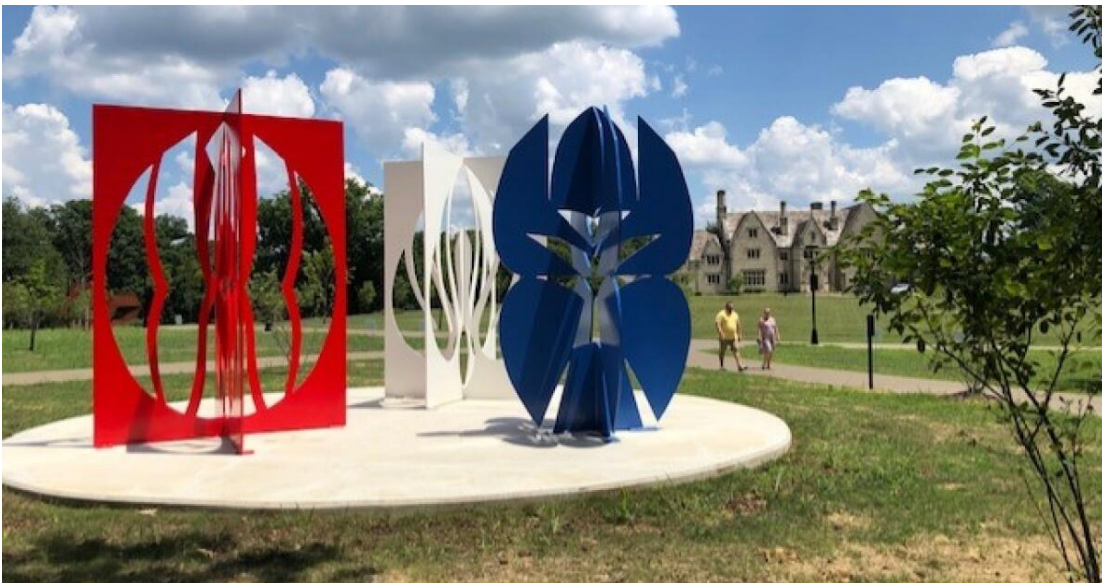
3. Consider Singletrack Mountain Bike Trail Network in Partnership with Minnesota Off-Road Cyclists, Anoka County Parks (Cost Unknown)



Locke Park Improvement Plan

City of Fridley

4. Possible Installation of Public Art Piece at Park Entrance



Appendix

1. City of Fridley Park Maintenance Standards



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 6, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Moore Lake Community Building Rental Fees and Policies Discussion

Background

The Moore Lake Community Building construction is underway and public use of the space may be ready around April 1st, 2024. A full set of rental policies and procedures will be developed and presented to the Commission for approval before implementation. Currently, staff seeks guidance from the Commission on rental fees, hours, security deposits, staffing expectations or other suggestions from the Commission.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Community Building Rental Rates Document

Vision Statement

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



Moore Lake Community Park Building

Summary of comparable park building
designs, configurations, rates and
operational models



City	Building	Seated Capacity	Divisible Rooms?	Weekday Rate	Weekend Rate	Security Deposit	Staff on Site?
Roseville	Autumn Grove/Lexington Park	48	No	Resident \$110/3 hr. \$175/5 hr. Non-resident \$155/3 hr. \$225/5 hr.	Resident \$140/3 hr. \$205/5 hr. Non-resident \$185/3 hr. \$255/5 hr.	No	Yes
Maplewood	Wakefield	66	No	Resident \$150/4 hr. \$50/hr. for meetings w/2 hr. min Non-resident \$190/4 hr.	Resident \$200/4 hr. \$300/7 hr. Non-resident \$250/4 hr. \$370/7 hr.	\$200	Yes
Coon Rapids	Riverwind Park Building	64	2 separate rooms	Resident/Non-profit \$80/half day \$140/full day Non-Resident \$110/half day \$195/full day	Resident/Non-profit \$105/half day \$160/full day Non-resident \$140/half day \$200/full day	\$150	No – staff are on call and cell number provided to renter. Staff on site desired.
Edina	Arden Park and Pamela Park	58/77 total cap	No	\$84/ half day \$121/full day	\$84/ half day \$121/full day	None	No
Woodbury	Ojibway Park Building	65	No	Resident \$80/hr \$350/day Non-resident \$115/hr \$460/day	Resident \$500/day Non-resident \$650/day	\$500	No
North Saint Paul	Casey Lake Park Building	95	No	Resident \$200 Non-resident \$250	Resident \$300 Non-resident \$400	\$300 weekday \$350 weekend	No – key code emailed

Fridley	Springbrook Nature Center	40 per room, 160 total	Yes	Resident \$30 per room/hr Non-Resident \$50 per room/hr	Resident \$30 per room/hr Non-Resident \$50 per room/hr	\$50 per room	Yes
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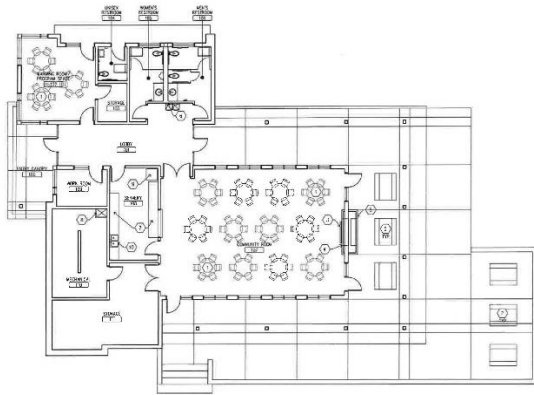
Introduction

The building being designed for Moore Lake Park fits into a category of park facilities typically referred to as park buildings or community buildings. These facilities are primarily used for rental space by community members, organizations and businesses for group sizes ranging from 10 to 80 people. Additionally, many communities use park buildings to enhance recreation programming as classrooms, warming houses, meeting rooms and amenity hubs. This report shows seating capacity, rental rates, security deposits and staffing models for park buildings operated by six cities in the Twin Cities Metro area.

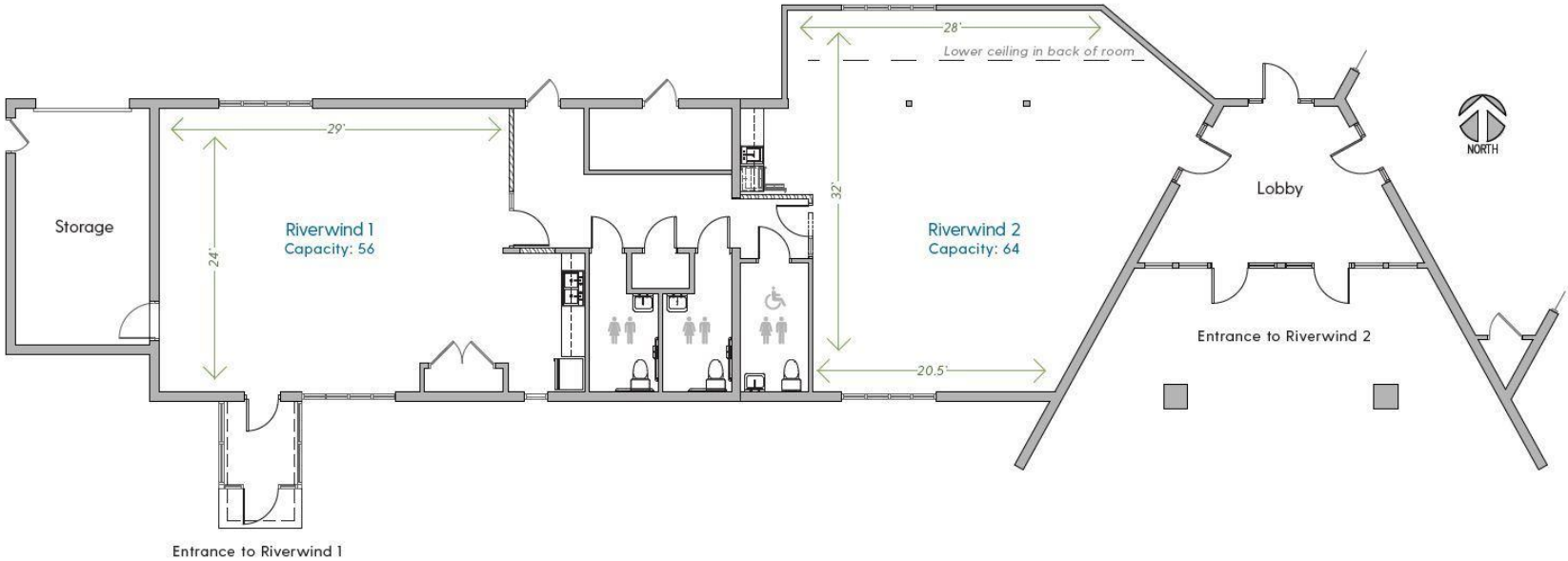
City of Roseville Lexington Park Building



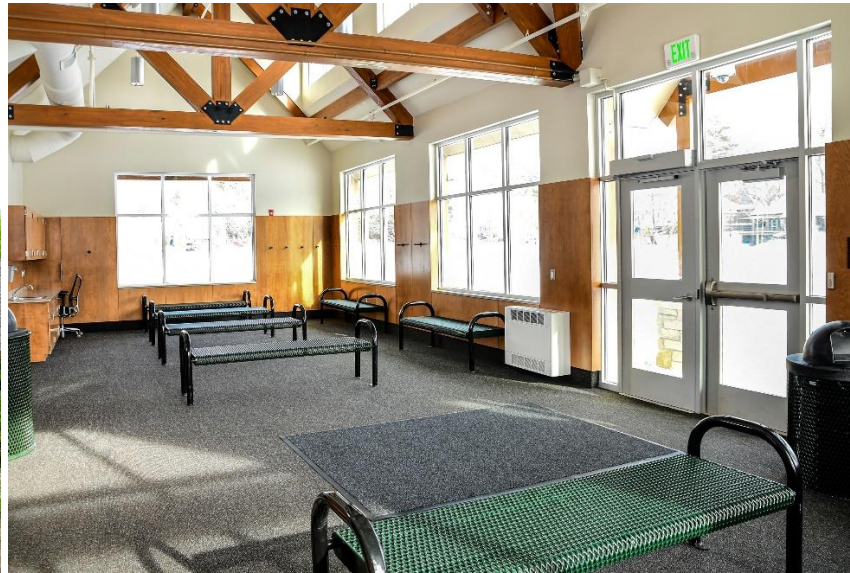
Maplewood Wakefield Community Building



Coon Rapids Riverwind Park Building



Edina Arden Park Building (interior used as warming house in winter)



Woodbury Ojibway Park Building



North Saint Paul Casey Lake Park Building



Fridley Springbrook Nature Center



Summary

Park buildings fill a role in our communities somewhere in-between a community center and traditional open-air park shelter. Common uses of these buildings are classes, birthday parties, graduation parties, showers, business meetings and retreats and it is typical to have staff or interior space access only available during scheduled rentals or programs.

The 70% design of the Moore Lake Park building would have the second largest meeting room based on seating capacity. Of the buildings listed all but one feature a single meeting room with the Riverwind building being the exception. This facility has two separate rooms having access to shared restrooms and kitchen amenities. None feature a divisible room (except Springbrook Nature Center, not a community building but shown for comparison, as is commonly found in community centers operated by municipalities.

Operationally, the most common model was to allow one rental per day in either half or full day time increments. About half of the facilities were operated with staffing with others allowing access with a key or key code. Cameras inside the facility were common, especially in those operating without staff.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 6, 2023

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Title

Pumpkin Night in the Park 2023 Event Report

Background

Pumpkin Night in the Park was held at Springbrook Nature Center on Saturday, October 21st. The event was safe and successful and attracted 3,000 visitors.

Financial Impact

This is an informational report and there is no financial impact at this time.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Pumpkin Night in the Park Event Report

Vision Statement

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



Pumpkin Night in the Park 2023

Pumpkin Night in the Park 2023 was a fun, safe, and successful community event!

Pumpkin Night in the Park at **Springbrook Nature Center** at a Glance:

- **1,200** pumpkins were carved by **900** community volunteers.
- Five pumpkin carving events were held October 15-19.
- 2,738 online tickets were sold with an additional 250 sold for a total attendance just shy of **3,000!**
- Event revenue exceeded **\$33,000.**
- **200 volunteers** assisted with tasks other than pumpkin carving such as pumpkin-placing, candle lighting, and event setup.
- **675** event attendees utilized the free parking shuttle service offered from the Spring Lake Park High School parking lot.













AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 6, 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 November 6, 2023 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Springbrook Nature Center Update for November 6, 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*

Item 5.

October Teaching

- Nature Center staff taught 7 **birthday parties** during October.
- SNC Naturalists have taught all **Fridley Middle School 5th graders** about Evolution, Adaptation, and Environmental Change. Students saw naturalists twice in their classroom and once at the nature center on a field trip.
- **Stevenson and Hayes Elementary 4th graders** learned about the water cycle
- **Adams Elementary 3rd graders** learned about fungus and lichen as well as learning about streams and water flow.
- **Adams Elementary Kindergarteners** learned about Observation in Nature.
- **Nature Preschool Club** started up again this fall to learn about the natural world through play, observation, and exploration.

October Rentals

- There were 2 PAC (pavilion activity center) and 3 indoor classroom rentals this month.

Grants

- We have been awarded the Xcel Energy Grant for \$7,500. The grant project is an **Interactive Stream Workshop**. We are well on our way to having this project construction completed. Our Parks department has been extremely helpful in constructing the stream beds, installing a water line, and coordinating with nature center staff throughout the project.
- Springbrook Nature Center has been awarded a **MN DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant** for \$150,000 to increase funding for the Nature Play Area expansion. We are excited to begin work on an expanded nature-based play area.



Park & Building Maintenance

- We are moving forward to the 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!

Events

- Pumpkin Night in the Park** was a big success this year! We saw about 3000 people through the gates for an evening of family-friendly spooky fun. This year's event ran extremely smoothly with the improvements we made. The weather was beautiful, parking went well, the entertainment stage was filled with folks eager to take in the Embrace the Light Fire Dancers, and our on-trail actors were so fun to engage with this year. We would be happy to hear feedback from any of you who attended (or heard from someone else who attended) or volunteered with us this year! We're already planning for next year's event (which will happen on Saturday October 19, 2024)!
- Community Pumpkin Carving** entertained about 750 volunteers who helped gut pumpkins, carve pumpkins, stack pumpkins, grease pumpkins (if you put Vaseline on the cut surfaces, the gourd loses less water and lasts longer), and got us ready for the big event. We plan to have our new fireplace running next year, maybe with s'mores and spooky tunes. (Next year's carving/gutting dates will be October 13-17, 2024)



Upcoming Events

- Lantern Light Hikes** will start up in December and run through March. Bring the family out to enjoy the trails by candlelight. If there's enough snow you can rent snowshoes as well! Mark your calendars for December 8, 2023, January 12, 2024, February 9, 2024, and March 8, 2024.
- Coffee Chat with a Nat** is a brand-new program that will debut on the first Wednesday of the Month from 10:30 am – 11:30 am. Join Naturalist Cody on Wednesday December 6th for a program on Winter Tree ID (and some delicious coffee). Each program will include an optional hike and is free to the public. This program is geared towards adults.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 6, 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 November 6, 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 November 6, 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: October 2023

Fall Programs

Below is a list of programs and participation numbers for the first session of fall programs which began in September and ran through October.

PRESCHOOL: Ages 3-5

Soccer (6 sessions) – 2 classes	18
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ELEMENTARY – MIDDLE SCHOOL: Grades K-7

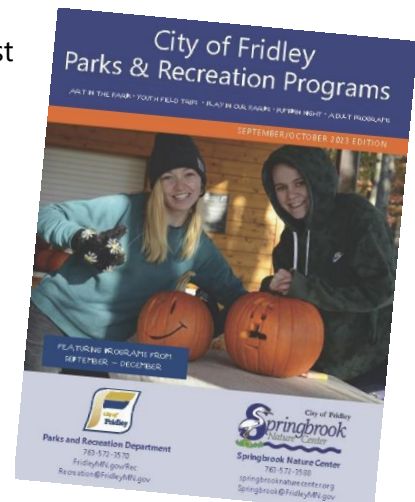
Soccer K-1 (6 sessions)	15
Soccer 2-4 (6 sessions)	17
Outdoor Games & Halloween Fun K-4 (6 sessions)	23
Afton Apple Orchard Field Trip (Fridley – 5; SLP – 11)	16
Zero Gravity & Pumpkin Carving Field Trip (Fridley – 15; SLP – 12)	27

ADULT FITNESS & ATHLETICS

Zumba (2 classes/6 sessions each): Sep - Oct	15
Pickleball Live Play Coaching (4 sessions): Sep - Oct (4 – Fridley; 4 - SLP)	8
Pickleball Ladder League – All Ages: Aug – Oct (21 – Fridley, 19 – SLP)	40
Pickleball Ladder League – Ages 20-35: Aug – Oct (11 – Fridley, 1 – SLP)	12
Volleyball Coed Rec League: Sep - Dec (Fridley – 1 team)	8 teams
Volleyball Coed Competitive League: Sep - Dec (Fridley – 1 individual registration)	6 teams
Volleyball Women's Competitive League: Sep - Dec (Fridley – 2 individual registrations)	9 teams

Parks and Recreation Brochure

The Nov/Dec brochure was mailed out to residents at the end of October. Staff are currently developing programming for the Jan/Feb brochure.



Fall Field Trips

We had some amazing trips over MEA break in partnership with Spring Lake Park Recreation. We ventured to Afton Apple Orchard on October 18 where we had a tour and hayride, got to see the apple sorting machine, played at the playground, and visited the petting zoo. Each participant took home three apples and a pumpkin. It was a bit chilly, but we had a blast!

On Thursday, October 19, we started our day at Zero Gravity Trampoline Park where we bounced, played dodgeball, climbed and more! After lunch, we spent the afternoon carving pumpkins, and our pumpkins were placed on the trails of SNC's Pumpkin Night in the Park! The kids were excited to be able to search for their pumpkins at the event.



Pickleball Wrap Up

Our outdoor pickleball programs wrapped up at Flanery and Terrace Park (Spring Lake Park) for the summer and fall. From May – October four different pickleball leagues, three classes, and three clinics were held at these locations. We are excited to move into the Hayes Gym beginning November 4 where we will continue to offer pickleball programs during the winter season.

Teen Pickleball

Our Teen Intro to Pickleball Class was held on October 11. The goal of this program is to introduce teens in the community to one of the fastest growing sports in the country. Our instructor worked with the kids in a small group which gave them the opportunity to get comfortable with the rules and technique of the game.

Pumpkin Night in the Park

The Recreation Division contributed to the Annual Pumpkin Night in the Park at Springbrook Nature Center supporting pumpkin carving, set-up, clean-up and parking. In addition, staff coordinated the shuttle and were onsite at Spring Lake Park High School. Approximately 675 people used the shuttle this year and it has been appreciated by participants who want to avoid the congested parking near the Nature Center.

Lawn of the Year Voting Open

Lawn of the year voting opened in October! Over the course of the summer a variety of lawns in Fridley were nominated by community members and then chosen by staff as lawn of the week. Pictures highlighting the lawn features were posted to the Fridley website and lawns were identified as winners with a sign. Now it's time for the public to vote for the best of the best! Voting is open from now until December 4. The winner will be crowned lawn of the year and be announced at the end of 2023.





AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 6, 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 November 6, 2023 meeting.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Park Maintenance Report for November 6, 2023 meeting

Vision Statement

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



Memorandum

Item 7.

Date: 10/25/2023
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 November 6th, 2023 Meeting

The Park Maintenance Division has been working on constructing an educational water project at SNC as well as preparing for Pumpkin Night, removing hazardous trees and limbs, helping with the new fireplace/patio install, patching 85th Ave boardwalk and brushing trails.

Mowing is mostly done in all parks, and we will be doing leaf removal/grinding in the next two weeks. All irrigation lines and buildings have been winterized and pressure valves have been removed and stored for winter.

Winter maintenance has started for snow removal and equipment will be serviced and put away until next summer.

Preparations will be made to all skating areas and repairs made for upcoming skating season.