



Park Commission Meeting

October 6, 2025

6:00 PM

Commons Park, 6249 7th St. NE, Fridley, MN 55432

Minutes

Call to Order

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

Present

Peter Borman
Tim Kirk
Jodi Rehlander
Ken Schultz
Don Whalen
Melissa Luna
EB Graham

Absent

Also Present

Councilmember Patrick Vescio
Councilmember Ryan Evanson
Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda for October 6, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Kirk to approve the October 6, 2025, meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Graham. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for September 2, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Rehlander to approve the September 2, 2025, meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Schultz. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

Residents Jeff and Jane Shaw, 5854 Stinson Blvd., Fridley, MN 55432, were present at the meeting to bring forth a concern regarding a neighboring property owner they report is encroaching onto the park property at Innsbruck Nature Center. They report that trees and other natural materials have been cleared, extending onto park property adjacent to 3155 Brookshire Ln., New Brighton.

Staff indicated that they would follow up with the complaint and make a determination if encroachment was occurring and if there were actions needed to address the issue.

New Business

1. Commons Park Site Tour

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Maher provided a tour of the Commons Park construction site and highlighted the park building, splash pad, playground, skating plaza, baseball field, pickleball courts, trails, parking areas, winter recreation area and future park pavilion sites.

No formal action was taken by the Commission on this item.

2. Scholarship Program Report

Mr. Maher provided a verbal report on utilization of the City of Fridley's recreation scholarship program. The program allows eligible, registered individuals to receive up to \$400 in scholarships for recreation programs per calendar year. Mr. Maher reported that 2025 data as of September 25, 2025 indicated that 22 individuals had received scholarships for programs totaling \$3,653.03, which is about 60% of the amount from the full 2024 year.

Commissioner Rehlander asked which types of programs were funded through scholarships. Mr. Maher reported that about 90% of the scholarships are used for after-school programming, held at Hayes Elementary.

No formal action was taken by the Commission on this item.

Staff Reports

3. Fridley Parks and Recreation Staff Report

Mr. Maher highlighted the Parks and Recreation Department's Pumpkin Night in the Park event, held at Springbrook Nature Center to be held on Saturday, October 18th. Mr. Maher indicated that volunteer opportunities were available for community members for the event and pumpkin carving efforts the week prior to the event.

Unfinished Business

None.

Adjournment

Commissioner Lune made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Staff Liaison