



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

April 6, 2026 at 7 p.m.
Moore Lake Park Community Building 5890
Central Avenue NE

Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of March 2, 2026 Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission

Approval of Agenda

Open Forum

The Open Forum allows the public to address the Council on subjects that are not on the Regular Agenda. The Council may take action, reply, or give direction to staff. Please limit your comments to five minutes or less.

New Business

2. Anoka County Parks Presentation on Islands of Peace Park
3. Resident Presentation on Disc Golf and Locke Park

Old Business

Staff Reports

4. Staff Report for April 6, 2026 Meeting

Adjournment

Accessibility Notice:

- If you need free interpretation or translation assistance, please contact City staff.
- Si necesita ayuda de interpretación o traducción gratis, comuníquese con el personal de la ciudad.
- Yog tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus los sis txhais ntaub ntawv dawb, ces thov tiv tauj rau Lub Nroog cove neeg ua hauj lwm.
- Haddii aad u baahan tahay tarjumaad bilaash ah ama kaalmo tarjumaad, fadlan la xiriir shaqaalaha Magaalada.

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 CityClerk@FridleyMN.gov or (763) 572-3450.

AGENDA REPORT



Meeting Date: April 6, 2026
Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission
Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Title: Approval of March 2, 2026 Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission

Background

Attached are minutes of the March 2, 2026 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and approval.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the March 2, 2026 meeting minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

-
1. PK 03-02-2026 with FYSA Report

Vision Statement

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



Park Commission Meeting

March 2, 2026

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

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

Absent

EB Graham
Riley Auna (Ex-Officio)

Also Present

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Councilmember Ann Bolkcom
Councilmember Ryan Evanson

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for February 2, 2026

Motion by Commissioner Kirk to approve the February 2, 2026, meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda for March 2, 2026

Motion by Commissioner Schultz to approve the March 2, 2026, meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Luna. The motion passed unanimously.

Open Forum

New Business

1. Islands of Peace Park History and Background

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Maher stated that the purpose of this park discussion is to understand the current uses and noted ongoing conservation with Anoka County regarding the future of the park, Joint Power Agreement, and possible transfer of land ownership. He provided information on the park property, park history, park features, and next steps.

Commissioner Rehlander asked if the County acts as the landlord for the MRPA. Mr. Maher confirmed that the County leases the building. He stated that there is some discussion for MRPA to look at other sites for their office activities. He noted that he will continue to provide updates on this as the year goes forward.

Councilmember Ann Bolkcom commented that the big issue has been that the City has wanted to program out of this space, but was not provided with that opportunity.

2. Discussion on the Impact of Federal Immigration Enforcement on Fridley Parks

Commissioner Rehlander recognized the impacts of recent immigration enforcement activity in the community. She wanted to have a discussion about the parks and how they can ensure that park users will have no fear in visiting the parks in the community.

Commissioner Whalen stated that he was unsure how the Commission was in a position to tell the local authorities or the federal government what to do. Commissioner Rehlander agreed that the Commission is not in the position to tell anyone what to do, but they could ask for clarification on what would be done. She reviewed the language that is on the website currently about the response of law enforcement in these situations, but believed that more information could be provided.

Chair Borman stated that more information was released from the City Council today. He commented that in his research, there is not much that local law enforcement can do in these situations.

Commissioner Rehlander commented that some municipalities have put signage in their parking lots and parks prohibiting ICE from staging in those areas. Chair Borman noted that he recently saw a sign of that nature in another community. He stated that he spoke with staff from that community, and the signs were a decision of the City Council, but also recognized that there is no ability for enforcement.

Commissioner Rehlander recognized that placing signs that cannot be enforced does not create safety. She stated that the City Council statement today mentioned some additional public conversations on this topic. She suggested that a member of the Commission participate in that process, along with a representative from each of the City commissions.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated that she and Commissioner Rehlander met with Mayor Ostwald and Public Safety Director Ryan George and provided an update on that meeting. She stated

that the statement released today was the first step. She recognized the work that people are doing to help their neighbors.

Councilmember Ryan Evanson stated that he was present to hear the comments from the Commission tonight. He stated that he is appointed to the Metro Cities group and provided an update on recent discussions that have arisen during their recent meetings. He recognized that placing signs banning ICE from parks creates a false sense of safety for those who may use the parks.

Commissioner Whalen was unsure why people want someone to be here if they have a warrant and should not be here. He commented that if the City places a sign in the parks banning ICE and someone is apprehended on park property, that could create additional liability issues for the City. He did not believe that people should be interfering with ICE activity.

Commissioner Rehlander commented that there are people being apprehended who are here legally, based on their appearance, and then being released at a later date. She did not believe that anyone would argue against taking someone who should be taken. She stated that she is not arguing that immigration activity is not needed, but ICE should follow the laws as well.

Commissioner Schultz stated that he supports people being taken who should be taken, but ICE should be following the rule of law.

Commissioner Luna asked if there has been a decrease in enrollment of parks programming. Mr. Maher recognized that some of the programming is done with partners, such as Fridley Public Schools, and commented that there had been a decrease in afterschool program participation during the height of the enforcement activity when school attendance had decreased as well. He commented that there are normal enrollment numbers thus far for the summer programming.

Commissioner Rehlander referenced a letter from area mayors, which came out before the second statement from the City, and asked if the City had been asked to sign the letter. Councilmember Evanson stated that would be a question for the Mayor, but did not believe Mayor Ostwald was asked to sign the letter in advance of it going out.

Commissioner Kirk asked for information on crime in the community recently. Councilmember Evanson commented that he can follow up with Public Safety Director George, but did not believe there were any changes one way or another during this time. The two members of the Council voiced support for the Police Department and acknowledged that the department remains fully staffed.

Chair Borman stated that he feels bad about what happened and how things happened, recognizing that things were handled badly by the federal government. He hoped that operation Metro Surge was done and things were beginning to return to normal.

Commissioner Rehlander provided suggestions for education and emergency procedures that could be put in place, and additional language that could be added to mailed park materials and/or park signs.

Motion by Chair Borman to appoint Commissioner Rehlander to represent the Parks Commission in any special meetings on the topic of immigration enforcement. Seconded by Commissioner Luna.

Further discussion: Commissioner Rehlander suggested that Commissioner Whalen also be a representative to ensure that two points of view are provided. Commissioner Whalen agreed. Commissioner Schultz commented that any members of the Commission could choose to attend. Commissioner Rehlander suggested that they simply state that a member of the Commission attend those meetings.

Chair Borman withdrew the motion.

The Commission made the statement that it would like to be made aware of special meetings on this topic to ensure that interested parties can attend.

Commissioner Luna commented on her experience as a social worker and in the mental health field, noting the importance of trauma-based responses for staff and people in the community, as these have been traumatic times. Mr. Maher welcomed materials that could be shared.

Chair Borman recognized that trust has been broken, and it will take time to build it back up.

Old Business

Staff Reports

3. Fridley Parks and Recreation Staff Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of his written report, highlighting project updates, recent events, and upcoming events and activities. He noted that the April meeting will be held at Moore Lake due to upgrades that will be made to the Council Chambers at City Hall.

FYSA Report

Chair Borman recognized that the FYSA member was not present, but did provide a written report prior to the meeting:

FYSA Update - March 2nd, 2026

Baseball

70 kids have signed up for the season.

Still looking for a few more tee ball players to make those teams whole.

Hoping that the fields stay dry and will be ready for the season to start.

Football

Registration will open on Monday, March 9th.
Expecting around 80 kids to sign up.
50% of those players are Fridley residents.

Soccer

120 kids are signed up and are ready for the spring/summer season.
PreK/K are still open as they try to fill out the teams. All other age groups are full.
Continue to work with Margo on field space at Community Park.
Continue to keep open communication about the use of Madsen Park for the Fall season

What is the current status of the Community Park renovation plan?
Is spring/summer soccer going to be impacted or should soccer plan for the fall season to be affected?

Basketball

K/1 Clinic is all wrapped up, over 30 kids at each of the 5 sessions.

Girls Grade State Championships wrapped up with Fridley hosting the 4th, 5th and 6th grade girls tournament at both the high school and middle school.
Teams came in from all over the state to compete in the tournament.

Boys Grade State Championships are this upcoming weekend for the 4th & 6th Graders.
8th grade boys play the weekend of March 14th.
Good luck to all of them!

The boys basketball house leagues have wrapped up for the season. Congratulations to the 6th grade boys and 7th grade boys for taking 1st in their league tournament!

Jake Sisterman is stepping down as the president of the basketball program.

Thanks!
Riley

Adjournment

Commissioner Schultz made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Luna. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Staff Liaison

AGENDA REPORT



Meeting Date: April 6, 2026
Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission
Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Title: Anoka County Parks Presentation on Islands of Peace Park

Background

Islands of Peace Park has been operated under a joint powers agreement between the City of Fridley and Anoka County since 1981. The City of Fridley owns the improved portion of the park including the land containing the parking lot, park building and trails. Anoka County has operated the park, which has been incorporated into the larger Riverfront Regional Park. Anoka County is able to receive funding for the operation of regional parks where the City of Fridley does not have this same designation. Given the current operations and funding outlook, consideration for the City to transfer ownership of the park property has been discussed. Anoka County staff will provide additional background information on park planning and operations as well as considerations for future development within the park property.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

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1. IOP presentation

Vision Statement

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

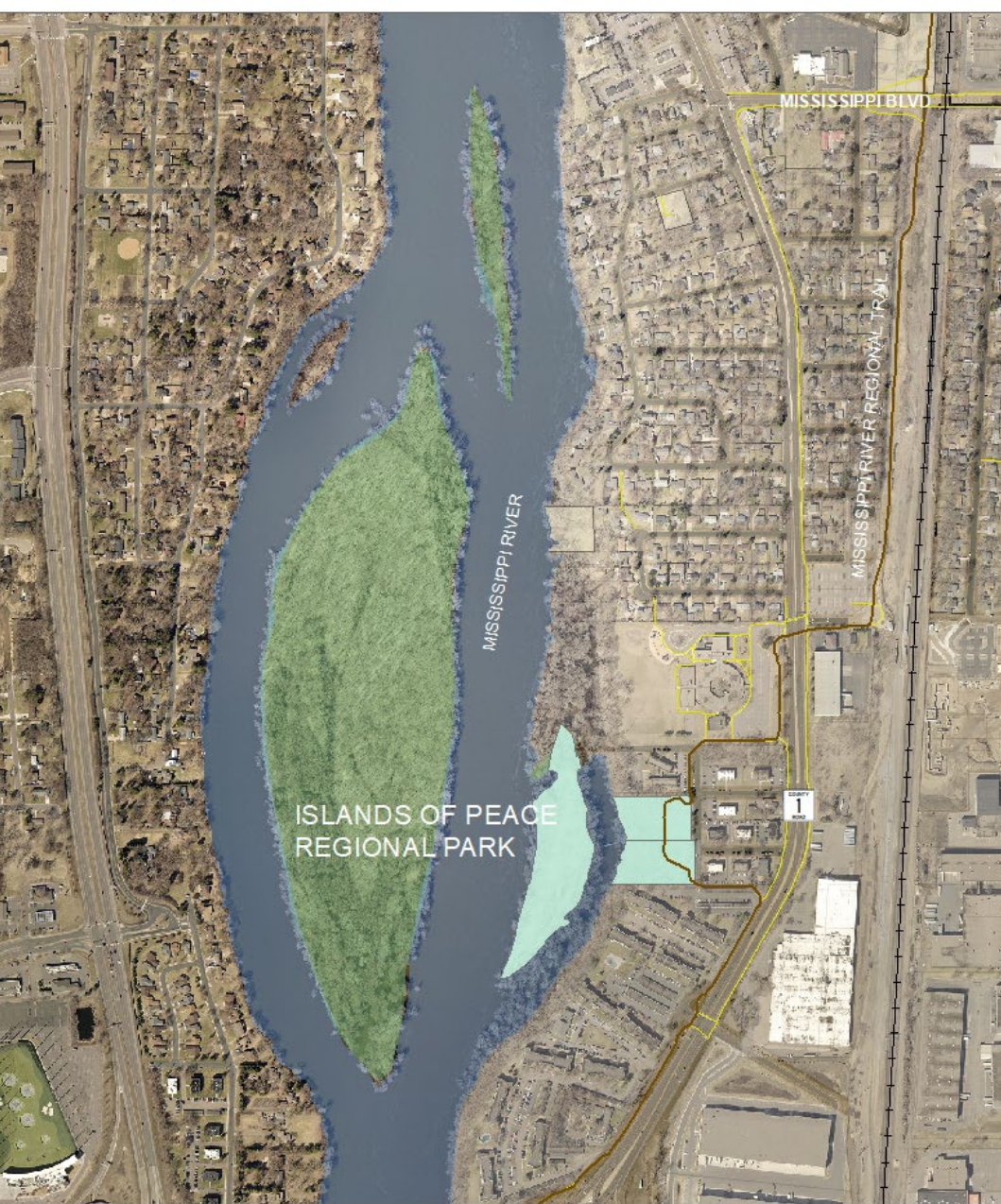


ISLANDS OF PEACE

Anoka County

AGENDA

1. Overview of Park
2. Existing Plans/Documents
3. Future plans for park



ISLANDS OF PEACE PARK

Date: 09/14/2022

PARK OVERVIEW

Islands

There are three islands that make up Islands of Peace.

1. Durnham - the largest island accessible only by boat
2. Gil Hodges – a narrow island north of Durnham, accessible only by boat
3. Chases – accessible via a pedestrian bridge and trails.

Park

Edward T. Wilmes, a Navy veteran paralyzed in WWII, came back to his hometown and wanted to create a natural space for people with disabilities. The Park was opened in 1973, run by the foundation he set up.

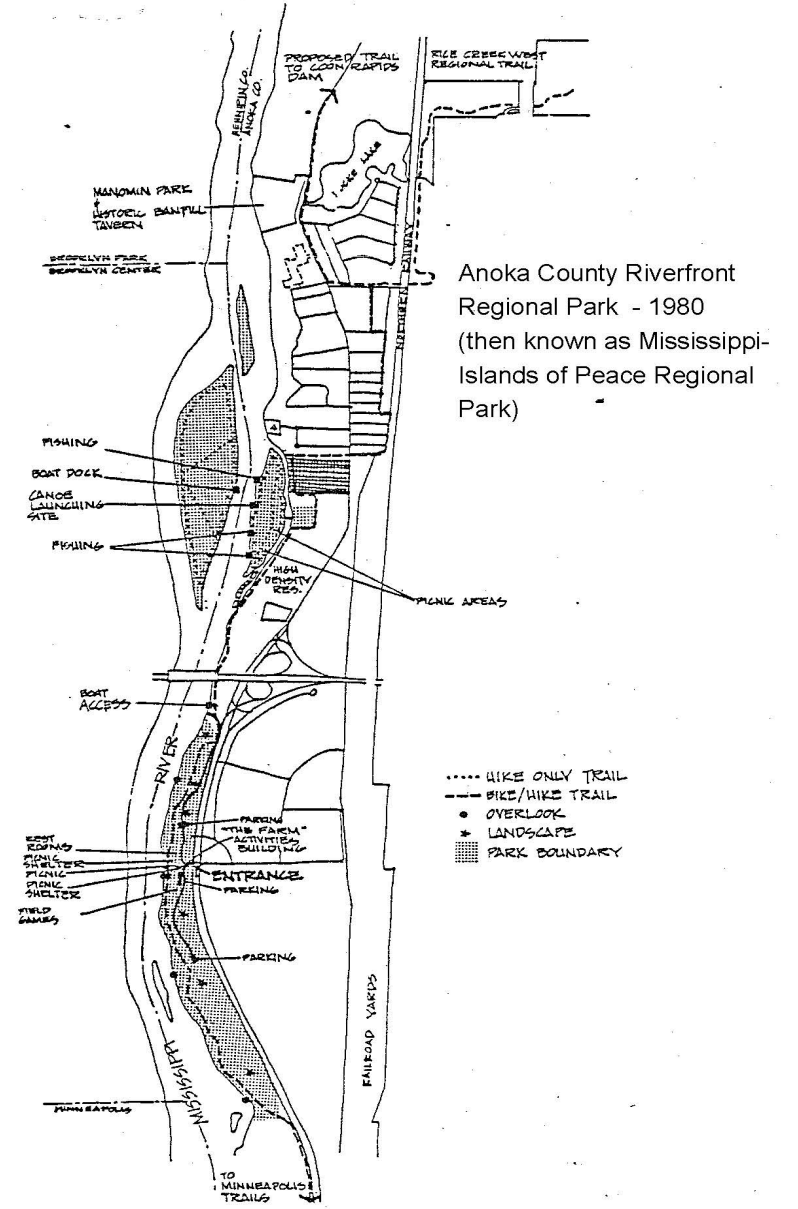


PARK OVERVIEW

The terraced switchback trail was very progressive at the time as this was years before the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed.

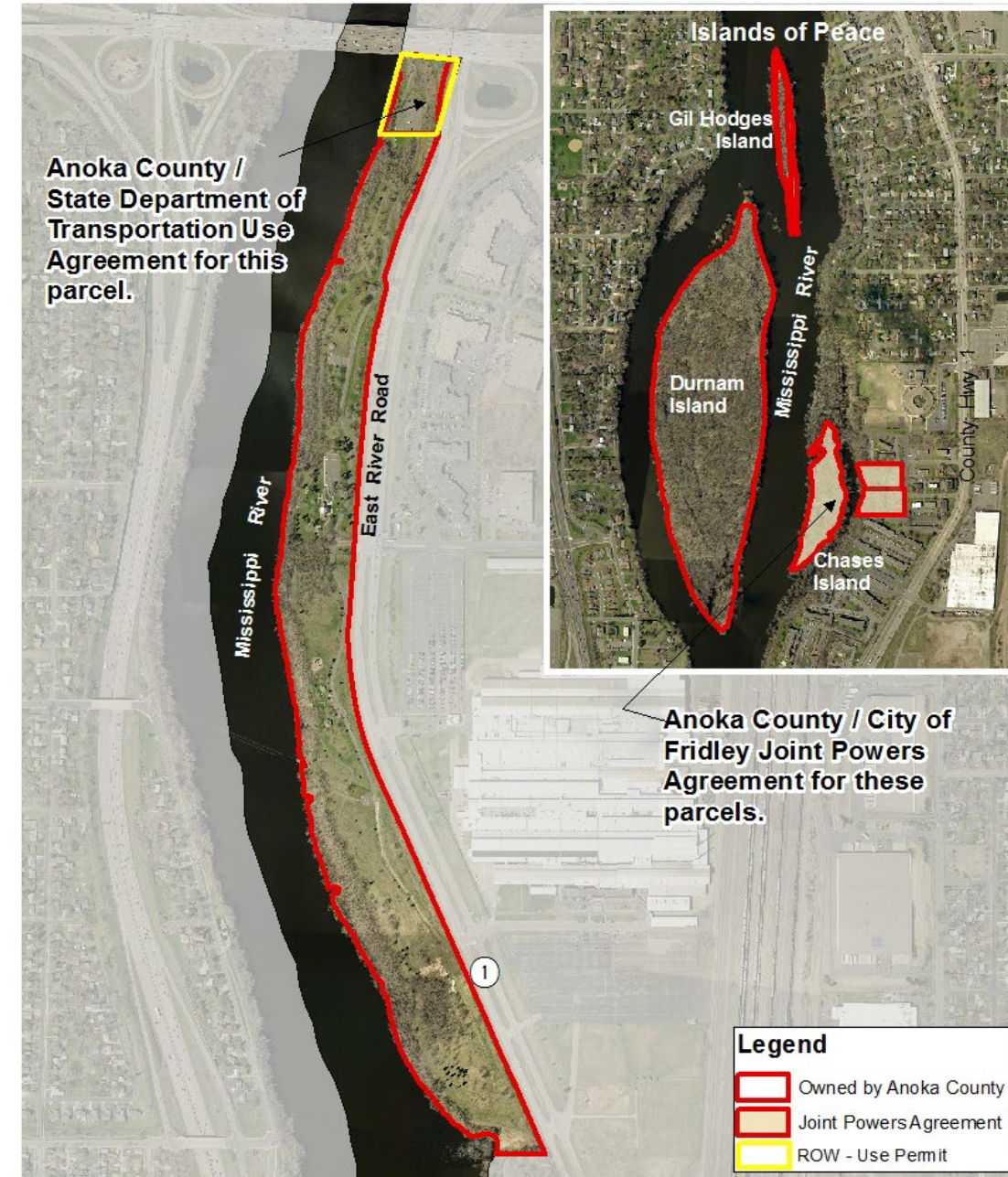
EXISTING PLANS/DOCUMENTS

1. 1980 Master Plan
2. Existing Joint Powers Agreement
3. Anoka County Plans (Riverfront Regional Park Long Range Plan)
4. City of Fridley Comprehensive Plan



EXISTING PLANS/DOCUMENTS

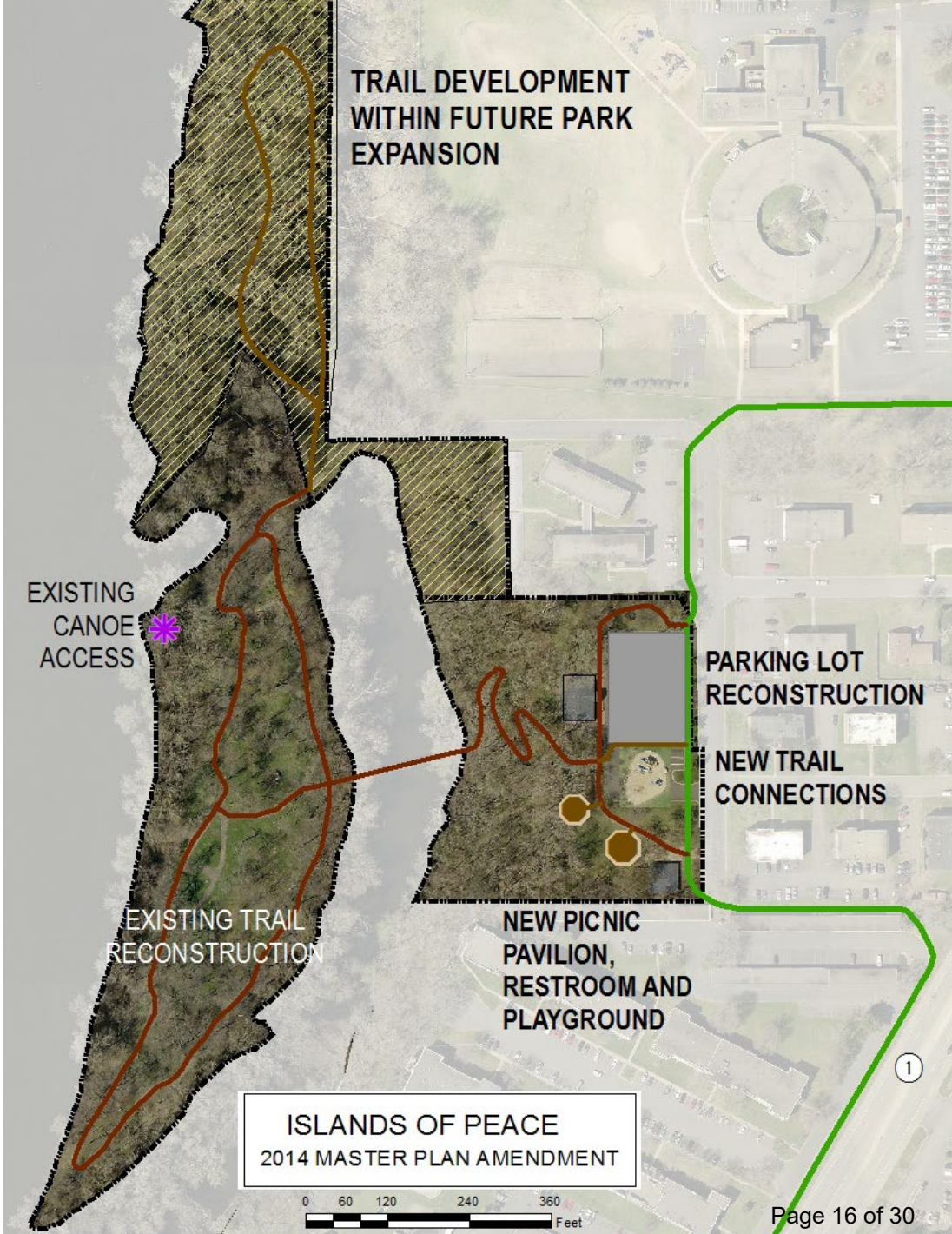
1. 1980 Master Plan
- 2. Existing Joint Powers Agreement**
3. Anoka County Plans (Riverfront Regional Park Long Range Plan)
4. City of Fridley Comprehensive Plan



**Anoka County Riverfront/
Islands of Peace Regional Park
Boundaries**

EXISTING PLANS/DOCUMENTS

1. Anoka County Plans (Riverfront Regional Park Long Range Plan)



POTENTIAL FUTURE PLANS FOR IOP

Long Range Plan:

Change from part of Riverfront Regional Park to trailhead facility along Mississippi River Trail

Park:

Remains as a regional park and open space

Educational and recreational programs

Transfer fee title of City parcels to Anoka County

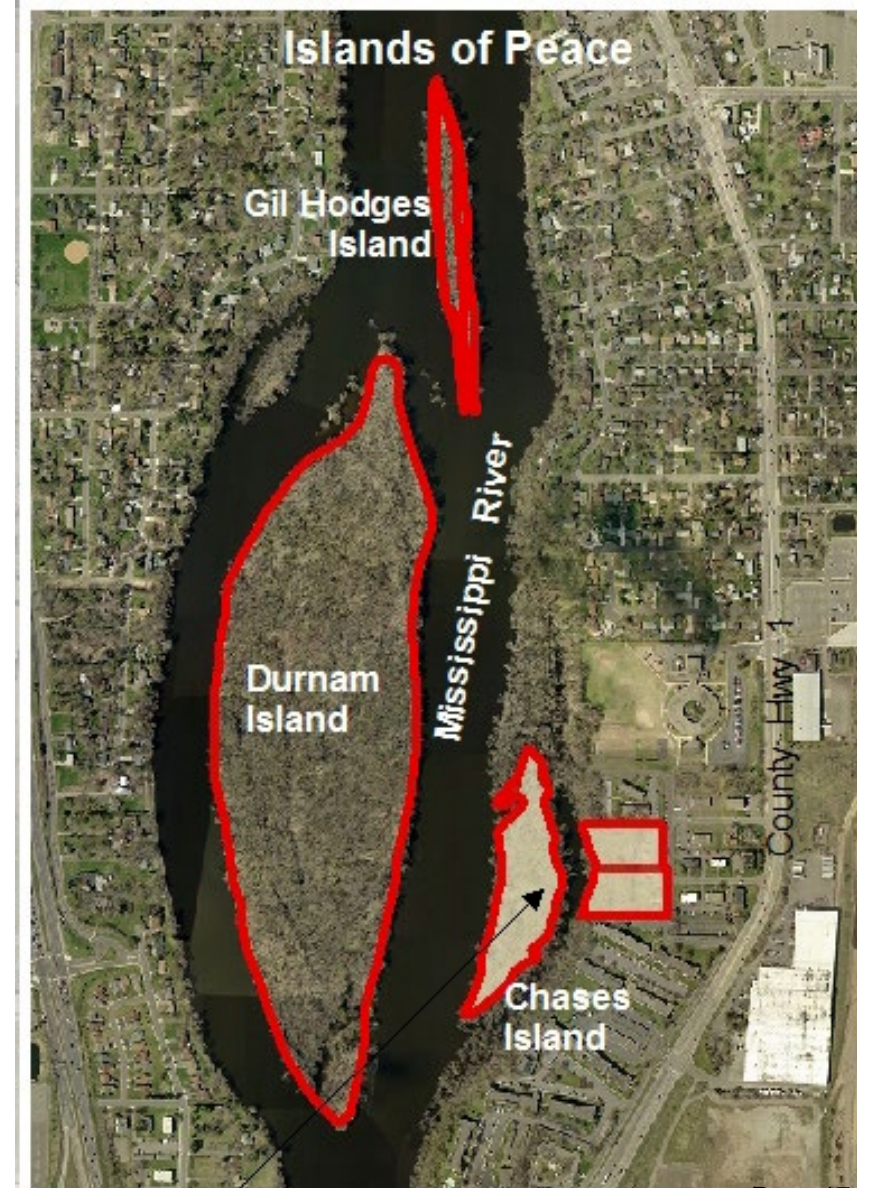
Buildings:

Operations Support Facility

Equipment Storage



03/25/2026



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QUESTIONS?

AGENDA REPORT



Meeting Date: April 6, 2026
Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission
Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Title: Resident Presentation on Disc Golf and Locke Park

Background

Fridley resident Richard Walch has requested the opportunity to share a presentation with the Commission on disc golf and the concept of development of a small course at Locke Park in Fridley.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

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1. Locke Park Map
 2. PDGA_Course_Design_Guides_March_2014_gLI13








Vision Statement

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

Park Information

- Park hours are from 5 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- Please dispose of litter in trash cans.
- Alcoholic beverages, smoking, vaping and recreational cannabis are prohibited.
- Open fires are not permitted.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times.
- Activities that damage park property are prohibited.
- Permits are required for organized shelter use.

Map Legend

-  Paved trail
-  Unpaved trail
-  Parking lot
-  Playground
-  Restroom
-  Off-leash dog park
-  Picnic shelter
-  Bridge



PDGA Disc Golf Course Design Recommendations

The PDGA does not design nor certify course installations. These recommendations share best practices developed by experienced course designers over 35 years of development, refinement and play.



Disc Golf Course Design Goals

1. Satisfy the design requirements of the people and organizations who approve use of the land and fund the equipment for the course. That includes meeting local, state and federal construction and safety requirements.
2. Design the course to have sufficient visibility of players, pedestrians and vehicles who may pass near or through it.
3. Design course with the potential for multiple configurations to serve not only beginners but players with advanced skills; consistent with the budget and design needs in Goal 1 above.
4. Design a well balanced course with a wide range of hole lengths and a good mixture of holes requiring controlled left, right and straight throws.
5. Utilize elevation changes and available foliage as well as possible. Take care to minimize potential damage to foliage and reduce the chances for erosion.

Course Design Assistance

There are several documents available on the PDGA website to help with course design at: www.pdga.com/course-development There are additional design resources available online, primarily at the websites of basket manufacturers. Contact information for manufacturers of PDGA approved targets can be found in this area: www.pdga.com/tech-standards Course design has gotten more sophisticated over the years. Seeking experienced design help from qualified individuals is highly recommended. Experienced designers can be well worth their fees by guiding clients thru the process, recommending cost effective processes and equipment alternatives, and perhaps most important, improving visibility and reducing interference related problems. This document can help you select a designer: www.pdga.com/documents/choosing-a-course-designer and a resource to find experienced designers is here: <http://www.discgolfcoursedesigners.org/discgolfwiki> Consider contacting the PDGA office: office@pdga.com to locate qualified designers in your area if you still need assistance.

Course Design Elements

1. SPACE: The first decision is to determine what type of course you would like to develop and whether enough space is available for that type of course. The amount of space available can sometimes depend on whether brush and trees can be removed to create fairways. Ideally, a well balanced course has a mixture of holes that go completely thru the woods, partially thru woods and mostly in the open. Fairways in the woods typically range from 15 ft wide pinch points up to 40 feet wide. A few larger trees sometimes need to be removed to create fair flight paths.

Most new courses are being developed with two sets of tees to better serve the different skill levels of players in the community, even if both sets aren't installed right away due to budget constraints. Four primary player skill levels (Gold, Blue, White and Red) have been defined with design guidelines for each level (see www.pdga.com/documents/design-skill-level-guidelines). Public courses are usually designed with a combination of Blue & Red or White & Red tees to meet the needs of most players.

Well developed disc golf areas and private facilities can sometimes justify installing a few of the longest, most challenging courses with permanent Gold tees for the highest player level. Even then, it makes sense to also install a set of shorter tees to serve White or Red level players.

A full length Championship course can require more than one acre per hole depending on foliage density (more trees, less acreage required). However, a small recreational course can sometimes fit 2-3 holes per acre depending on terrain. (Read the document on Acreage Guidelines for more detailed information at www.pdga.com/documents/course-design-acreage-guide)

2. HOLE COUNT: Most courses are 9 or 18 holes. There are several with 12, 24 or 27 holes. It's better to install a well designed, dual tee 12-hole course than it is to install a cramped 18-hole course on the same piece of land. It's tradition the number of holes be divisible by 3 but is not required.

3. LENGTH: Most courses should have at least one configuration for beginners and casual recreational players that rarely averages more than 250 feet per Par 3 hole (75 meters). This works out to a maximum of 4500 ft (1350m) for an 18-hole Par 54 course or 2250 feet (675m) for a 9-hole Par 27 course. The shortest length range is 3600-4300 feet (1080-1290m) for a land constrained 18-hole Par 3 public course. No hole should effectively be shorter than about 100 feet (30m) even on courses for beginners. If land is available, recreational courses can have several par 4 holes and even a par 5 hole for beginner skill levels. This can get a recreational course up to the low 5000s for length.

Alternative longer configurations are achieved by installing another set of tees and/or target positions on most holes. Typical 18-hole course setups for amateur White level players range from 4500-6000 feet (1350-1800m). Course setups longer than 6000 feet (1800m) ranging up to 10,000 feet are primarily for better players at the Blue or Gold level and for tournament play. These courses should again have several par 4s and even a par 5 or two as land is available. There is no maximum length allowed for a hole. The longest holes in the world can get to 1500 feet (458m). See Course Design Guidelines for PDGA Skill Levels & Divisions. www.pdga.com/documents/design-skill-level-guidelines

Hole length is measured from front of the tee to the target along the fairway route the designer intended players of that skill level to throw. For doglegs or water carries, the only time the straight line, crow flies, measurement should be used is if the designer intended players of that skill level to be able to throw over the tree tops to shorten the dogleg or throw straight completely over the water.

4. HOLE NOTES: There should be at least one flight path that can be negotiated at the skill level the route is designed for. There should be more than one flight path or type of throw (including rollers) available on several of the holes. There should not be too many objects within 33 ft (10m) of each target. Any object near the target should not be so large that a player cannot find an unobstructed flight path by stretching sideways, throwing from a low stance, throwing through or over the top of the object.

A player throwing from the shortest (or only) tee on a hole should not be "forced" to throw over water that is normally greater than 18" deep (50cm). Include a flight path (usually to the left) that allows a player to avoid throwing over deeper water. Any normally dry trenches, some occasionally filled with seasonal water under 18" deep, that are regularly in play should have appropriate paths down and out to be able to take a stance as needed and/or retrieve discs.

5. TEES: Hard surface tee pads of textured cement or asphalt are preferred. Typical size for pads at the longer tee positions is 5 ft (1.5m) wide by at least 12 ft (3.5m) long. Maximum size at the front line of the pad is about 6 ft (2m) wide with a length up to 20 ft (6m) long. The back end might flare out to 10 feet (3m) wide. Minimum rectangular size is 4 feet (1.2m) wide and 10 feet (3m) long. If you need to conserve materials, make tee pads shorter on short or downhill holes and longer on long holes. For example, a hard surfaced tee pad at the top of a hill on a short hole might only need to be 8 ft long because most players will just stand at the front edge of the tee to make their throws.

Non-hard surface tee areas should be even surfaced and not contain protruding rocks or roots. Tee areas should be level from left to right. They should not slope too sharply from front to back. Without hard surfaced or rubber tee pad, the front edge of tee area must be indicated by the front edge of a tee board buried flush in the ground or by the imaginary line between two stakes or flags that mark the front edge.

Beyond the front of each tee pad and either side should be adequate room for follow-thru so a player doesn't risk twisting an ankle, falling off a ledge or whacking their arm on a tree or sign. If possible, provide adequate level ground for a run-up behind each tee pad, especially on longer holes. Avoid major obstructions that severely block the flight path up to 20 feet in front of tee.

On courses with alternate tees on some holes, the tee surfaces in the shorter positions should always be better or at least equal in quality to those in longer positions. For example, avoid designs where the long tee pads are cement and short tee pads are grass or dirt, especially when there are no tee signs.

The designated color for each set of tees used for course layout identification on scorecards should match one of the four recognized player skill levels that set of tees was designed for: Gold, Blue, White or Red. Sometimes there's no room for two tees on every hole. Just make sure to mark each tee on single tee holes with both colors.

Course managers are encouraged to move toward these color guidelines when the opportunity presents itself for new installations, redesigns or course upgrades when their current color(s) do not match the PDGA guidelines.

6. TARGETS: Any marked object or post could serve as a target but the basket/chain style are preferred. Make sure homemade targets do not have sharp edges to injure players or damage discs. Locally fabricated targets for sale or to be installed on public land must not have elements that violate any target manufacturers' patents. Higher tier PDGA sanctioned events are expected and sometimes required to use better and more consistent target models. PDGA approved targets at the Basic, Standard and Championship levels are listed here: www.pdga.com/tech-standards

Manufacturers are required to produce targets so the height of the basket rim above the playing surface will be 82 cm +/- 6 cm. Targets should be installed level with the ground below them even though course developers may install some targets where the height falls outside the 76-88 cm manufacturing range. The PDGA Course Committee suggests that no more than 6 targets out of 18 be installed outside the manufactured height range with just 2 or 3 being preferred. Targets suspended from above can be fun for recreational play but there should be a way to secure it from swinging freely during sanctioned play.

7. SIGNS: Install a rules sign prominently before the first tee or post the rules on an information board (if there is one). Signs or marker arrows on or near each target should indicate the direction to next tee (as needed). Signs should indicate Out-of-Bounds (OB) boundaries and any other areas players should avoid. Ideally, the OB lines bordering non-uniform boundaries like water/grass or gravel/grass should be identified with markers flush with the ground or white tipped stakes if possible.

The primary tee on each hole should have permanent signs indicating the hole number, length(s), teeing direction (if needed) and par for that skill level (see next section). When a hole has more than one target location, it's helpful if the current location can be identified on the sign. Try to have some sort of sign by or on the alternate tee positions even if it's just the hole number and length.

8. PAR: Par should be set for each tee/basket position combination on a hole based on the player skill level they were designed for. www.pdga.com/documents/design-skill-level-guidelines provides assistance to determine pars. This document: www.pdga.com/documents/par-guidelines provides a more specific way to determine par based on length and foliage elements of holes for each player skill level. The hole length used to determine par (not for the signs) should be adjusted up or down based on a 3-to-1 factor (i.e. 30 feet adjustment for every 10 feet elevation change) if the hole has a significant upslope or downslope.

So players know what standard has been used for par, it should be indicated on scorecards and tee signs as Blue Par or Red Par, which hopefully matches the tee color(s) used. When less precise estimates are used to determine par (i.e., not using color skill levels), use the terms Expert or Pro Par for longer tees and Standard or Amateur Par for shorter tees. The terms Women's, Senior's or Junior tees should not be used.

9. LAYOUT: Fairways should not cross one another and should be far enough apart so errant throws aren't regularly in the wrong fairway. Fairways should not cross or be too close to public streets, sidewalks or too near private property and other busy areas where non-players congregate. Absolutely avoid designs where players might throw into blind areas where non-players could be walking on a well-defined park pathway. Avoid hazardous areas such as swamps and thorny or poisonous foliage. Tees and targets should be far enough from the targets and fairways of other holes.

The tee for the first hole should ideally be the closest to the regular parking area. The target for the last hole should not be too far from the parking area and relatively close to the first tee. If possible, try to locate at least one other hole in the middle of course near the parking area. Try to minimize the amount of walking between holes while keeping paths as much out of other fairways as possible.

10. ADA COMPLIANCE: Sections of many disc golf courses are accessible to many people with a disability other than wheelchair bound. With the exception of some disc golf courses on ball golf courses, carts are not utilized as a regular part of the disc golf game. The normal challenges presented by the sometimes rough terrain utilized for courses make it unrealistic to accommodate everyone on every hole. Unlike golf where golf carts along with a 48" wide cart path throughout the course are common, the cost of a similar path on disc golf courses would be an undue cost burden in relation to the typical budget for installing courses and carts would not be around to use it. Efforts can and have been made to provide an opportunity for those with disabilities to play at least some holes, even if not all holes are easily accessible. In some cases, designing a multiple hole loop on part of the course may provide that opportunity.

March 3, 2014

AGENDA REPORT



Meeting Date: April 6, 2026
Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission
Submitted By: Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director
Title: Staff Report for April 6, 2026 Meeting

Background

The staff report includes updates on Parks and Recreation Department programs, projects and initiatives.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission review and accept the staff report.

Attachments and Other Resources

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1. Combined Staff Report for April 6 Meeting

Vision Statement

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

STAFF REPORT



Recreation Division: March 2026

Spring Programs

Below is a list of programs and participation numbers for those that took place in February.

Ages 15+

Immersive Soundbath: Mar 16	14
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Preschool: Ages 3-5

Games Galore (6 sessions): Feb-Mar	16
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Elementary – Middle School: Grades K-6

Games Galore (6 sessions): Feb-Mar	9
Tae Kwon Do (6 sessions): Feb-Mar	20
Slimy, Goopy, Sticky (6 sessions): Feb-Mar	15

Adult Fitness and Athletics

Zumba (6 sessions): Feb-Mar	10
Pickleball Live Play Coaching: Mar F=7, SLP=5	12
Pickleball Ladder League All Ages: Jan-Mar F=25, SLP=20	45
Pickleball Ladder League Ages 20-40: Jan-Mar F=13, SLP=5	18
Volleyball Coed Rec: Jan-Mar*	10 teams
Volleyball Coed Comp: Jan-Mar*	10 teams
Volleyball Women's Comp: Jan-Mar*	10 teams
Bag Toss League Co-ed: Jan-Mar*	10 pairs
Men's Basketball Leagues (2 Rec Leagues): Dec - Mar	17 teams

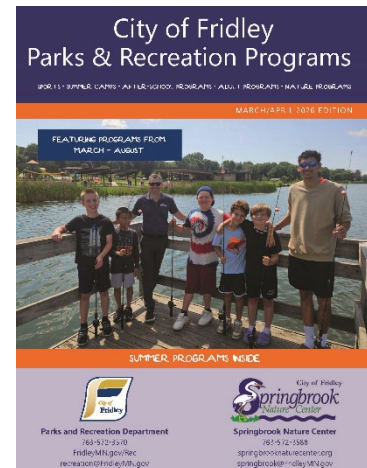
*North Metro Leagues are offered in cooperation with Mounds View, New Brighton, and Spring Lake Park.

Parks and Recreation Activity Guide

The content for the May/June edition of the Activity Guide is complete and the designer is working on the document.

March Facility Rentals

Facility	Reservations
Moore Lake Community Building	13
Hayes Pickleball Courts	18 hours



Seed Swap

Fridley's 2nd Annual Seed Swap was held in partnership with Environmental Planner Rachel Workin, Anoka County Master Gardeners, and Minnesota Native Landscapes on Saturday, March 7. There were 150 people of all ages that came out to swap seeds and dream of gardening on that snowy morning. They were also able to get advice from master gardeners, learn about native seeds, and spend a morning together in community with other gardeners. A lot of feedback received indicated that this is one of their favorite Fridley events and they look forward to next year's swap!



Basketball

Both Men's Basketball Leagues wrapped up in March. Leagues took place at the Fridley Middle School and Hayes Elementary on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Teams played ten regular season games and one guaranteed playoff game.

Pickleball Leagues and Class

The Winter Pickleball Leagues wrapped up in March. We offered a league for 20-40 year olds and one for all-ages. In addition, we hosted a Live Play Coaching class designed for intermediate to advance level players. As we move into April and May, we will host our last indoor leagues and classes of the season before we move programs to our outdoor facilities at Commons and Moore Lake Parks.

North Metro Volleyball and Bag Toss

North Metro Volleyball wrapped up a successful season with three different leagues completing in March including a Coed Recreational and Competitive League as well as a Women's Competitive League on Monday and Wednesday nights at Highview Middle School and Hayes Elementary School. Spring Volleyball leagues will begin in April. On Thursday nights at the Mounds View Community Center, we hosted a Coed Bag Toss League where teams played double headers against other competing teams.

Family Open Gym

Another successful season of Saturday Family Open Gym. From November – March we had a total of 356 participants utilize the indoor gym space at Hayes. Families played and burned off some energy in the gym using the small bouncy castle, scooters, a variety of sports equipment and obstacle courses.

Pickleball Court Rentals

Pickleball court rentals took place following Family Open Gym on Saturday afternoons seeing a total of 38 reservations equally 61 hours of use. We are happy to be able to offer groups an indoor space to play while the winter weather prevents pickleball players from getting out.

Summer ROCKS Registration Opened

Our annual summer camp registration kicked off at 8 a.m. on March 4! Within 24 hours, the grades 4-6 program was 99% full for all weeks, grades 2-3 was 61% full and grades K-1 was 66% full. We hope to fill the remaining slots before summer and look forward to operating ROCKS at Commons Park this summer!

Summer hiring update

The Recreation Seasonal Instructor, Summer ROCKS Coordinator, and Commons Park Facility Monitor jobs have been posted and are currently receiving applications! Skyler and Jessica went to Fridley High School during lunch hour to recruit students for the seasonal instructor jobs. The response was great and many students are interested in applying. If you know of anyone looking for a summer job, please have them apply! Applications are due on April 5 for all jobs. We anticipate April to be filled with many interviews as we prepare for a fun summer at Commons Park!

After-School Programs

The following classes ended in March: Games Galore, Tae Kwon Do, and Slimy, Goopy, Sticky. We will begin the next session of classes in April.



Upcoming Events and Programs

- April 1: April Fools Scavenger Hunt | 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. | Locke Park | FREE
- May 2: Environmental Fun Fair | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Springbrook Nature Center | FREE
- June 1-5: Summer Staff Training
- June 15 – August 14: Summer ROCKS Program at Commons Park
- June 8, 22, 29, July 6, 20, 27: Music in Our Parks with the City of Fridley Band at various City Parks
- June 15, July 13, August 3 & 17: Nights with Northeast Orchestra Chamber Players at Moore Lake Park
- June 23, July 7, July 28, August 18: Summer Community Concerts at Civic Campus and Springbrook Nature Center
- July 16-18: Fridley 49er Days Festival
- July 18-19: Volleyball and Pickleball Tournaments
- August 5: Frozen Jr, The Musical kid's performance at Commons Park
- August 18: Touch-A-Truck & Concert at Civic Campus

Teaching

Number of Participants Taught: 571

Number of Hours Teaching: 937

Rentals and Birthday Parties

Number of Birthday Parties: 4

Number of Indoor Room Rentals: 7

Number of Shelter/PAC Rentals: 0

Grants

- The Xcel Energy Foundation grant was submitted on Friday, February 20th. The grant was entitled Blades to Benches: Interpretive Learning in Action.
- Purchasing for the International Paper Foundation Grant will take place in the next two weeks. The MicroEye microscope will be installed in the biomimicry exhibit, with the slightly damaged microscope moved into service with our naturalists during onsite programming.

Park & Building Maintenance

- The bike trail has been evaluated by an engineering company with repairs estimated at nearly 1 million dollars. Our engineering department is working on some value engineering measures as well as partitioning the project to allow it to be done in phases. (Previously I mentioned it went out to bid, but I was mistaken - that will be the next step following the work of the City of Fridley's Engineering team.)
- The recessed can lights in the lower ceiling section of the exhibit room, where the fireplace is situated, have been replaced. The painter is currently onsite to complete the drywall taping, mudding and painting.

Upcoming Events

- Signs of Spring Hike, Sunday March 22 - 1 pm Learn how the environment is changing with the longer, warmer days and how humans measure the changing seasons. (Drop in program, no fee)
- Women Outdoors, Wednesday March 18 - 6-7:30 pm Topic yet to be determined, stay tuned for more information

Notable News at SNC

- Summer Camp Registration opened on February 25. Multiple weeks of camp filled within 45 minutes of registration. Currently we have 541 campers enrolled with 134 spots available for the summer. That's 80% filled in less than a week!

Activity Name	Resident	Non Resident	Reg Total	Spots Remaining	Percentage Filled
Camp Classics (morning) ages 4-5	1	4	5	10	33%
Camp Classics, ages 10-12	5	10	15	0	100%
Camp Classics, ages 6-7	4	14	18	12	60%
Camp Classics, ages 8-9	2	13	15	0	100%
Ready, Set, Survive! ages 10-12	4	11	15	0	100%
Ready, Set, Survive! ages 6-7	0	15	15	0	100%
Ready, Set, Survive! ages 8-9	7	22	29	1	97%
Fantastic Forts (morning) ages 4-5	4	5	9	6	60%
Creative Campers ages 10-12	4	11	15	0	100%
Creative Campers ages 6-7	1	15	16	-1	107%
Creative Campers ages 8-9	4	20	24	6	80%
Creative Campers (morning) ages 4-5	4	7	11	4	73%
Adventure Camp, ages 10-14	5	10	15	0	100%
Agents of Nature, ages 6-7	4	19	23	7	77%
Agents of Nature, ages 8-9	2	13	15	0	100%
Backyard Oddities, ages 10-12	6	7	13	2	87%
Creature Feature, ages 6-7	4	20	24	6	80%
Creature Feature, ages 8-9	4	11	15	0	100%
Creature Feature (morning) ages 4-5	0	5	5	10	33%
Nature Play (morning) ages 4-5	0	7	7	8	47%
Nature Play (afternoon) ages 4-5	1	4	5	10	33%
H2Ohhh! ages 10-12	4	11	15	0	100%
H2Ohhh! ages 6-7	4	11	15	0	100%
H2Ohhh! ages 8-9	5	23	28	2	93%
Drip Drop (morning) ages 4-5	0	9	9	6	60%
It's a Pirate's Life for Me! ages 10-12	6	8	14	1	93%
It's a Pirate's Life for Me! ages 6-7	4	16	20	10	67%
It's a Pirate's Life for Me! ages 8-9	4	11	15	0	100%
Catch Me If You Can ages 10-12	9	6	15	0	100%
Catch Me If You Can ages 8-9	6	20	26	4	87%
Catch Me If You Can, ages 6-7	6	7	13	2	87%
Chomp and Chase (morning) ages 4-5	3	8	11	4	73%
Greatest Hits, ages 10-12	6	9	15	0	100%
Greatest Hits, ages 6-7	2	13	15	0	100%
Greatest Hits, ages 8-9	3	12	15	0	100%
Splash, Slither, CROAK! (morning) ages	2	4	6	9	40%
Splash, Slither, CROAK! (Afternoon) ages	0	0	0	15	0%
			Total Enrolled	Spots Left	Avg Filled
			541	134	80%