



Park Commission Meeting

December 1, 2025

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

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

Absent

Ken Schultz

Also Present

Mike Maher, Parks and Recreation Director

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Agenda for December 1, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Graham to approve the December 1, 2025, meeting agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Whalen. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes for November 3, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Kirk to approve the November 3, 2025, meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Luna. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Commons Park Rental Fees and Guidelines First Draft Review

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Maher presented the first draft of a rental program and guidelines for the new Commons Park site. He reviewed the purpose, the areas/spaces that could be rented, and proposed rental rates and guidelines. Additional clarification was provided on the hours, programming, and bus permits.

Commissioner Rehlander asked the plan for spontaneous crowd control. Mr. Maher replied that this would be a staffed location and provided some scenarios that could be considered.

Mr. Maher highlighted information from the rental policy.

Commissioner Rehlander asked if there would be an internal document related to capacity and attendance to provide direction to staff. She also offered grammatical suggestions. Mr. Maher confirmed that guidance could be provided, but he would not want to include a hard number, as the park itself allows for flowing in and out of spaces.

Commissioner Whalen recognized that this is a best guess, as they will learn more information as they proceed. Mr. Maher agreed that this is a starting point, and they can make changes as they go.

Motion by Commissioner Whalen to recommend approval of the Commons Park rental fees and guidelines. Seconded by Commissioner Rehlander. The motion passed unanimously.

2. City Code Review – Chapter 508 – Parks and Parkways

Mr. Maher provided background information on the recodification process the City has been completing over the past several years. He stated that staff have begun the process of evaluating the sections of City Code related to public use and properties, including parks. He reviewed some of the considerations and questions that have been raised by staff thus far and confirmed that the review would remove redundant and outdated language.

Commissioner Rehlander expressed interest in the drone regulations/guidelines and supported the prohibition of balloons.

Chair Borman commented that he believed there should be a separation between parks and parkways, as parkways seem to be more appropriately located in another section of the City Code.

Mr. Maher noted that this is a first review and will come back before the Commission throughout the process.

Old Business

Mr. Maher noted that the January meeting will be held at Springbrook Nature Center due to a schedule conflict with the City Council.

Staff Reports

3. Fridley Parks and Recreation Staff Report

Mr. Maher provided an overview of the written report, highlighting recent events, upcoming programming activities and events, and updates on park improvement projects.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Maher, Staff Liaison