

RAMSEY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2023 – 6:00 PM

Parks Administrative Building
2015 Van Dyke Street in Maplewood Minnesota

Commission Members In Attendance: Leah Shepard, Mary Grams Basnight, Jordan Nelson, Brian Tempas (Vice-Chair), Dr. Tamara Mattison, Savannah Lane, Snowdon Herr, Candy Petersen

Not In-attendance: Chair - Gregory Williams (Chair), Candy Petersen

Staff: Antonio Montez, Mark McCabe, Angela Marlette

The meeting was called to order at 6:13pm by Vice Chair Brian Tempas. Leah Shepard motioned to approve the November 9, 2022, meeting minutes and accept the January 11, 2023, agenda; Snowden Her seconded. Motion carried.

After discussion, *a motion was made by Leah to post phone the Annual By-law Review and 2023 Chair/Vice-Chair election to the February 2023 meeting. This was seconded by Mary Grams Basnight, Motion carried.*

Commission Chair Update: Greg Williams notified Mark McCabe that he will be absent tonight. Mark had prepared responses to Greg's December Commission Chair update in which he addressed concerns regarding the Battle Creek Winter Recreation Area project.

- Received a \$164,000 Equity grant from the Met Council for Learn to Ski Programs, equipment has already been purchased and program planning is under way.
- Current programming is Free ski passes to youth 12 and under, free passes to students on the reduced lunch programs.
- Seeding ski programs at Harding High School, Washington Tech Magnet and Johnson High School as well as in-school ski programs for all 3rd thru 6th graders at Battle Creek Elementary and Highwood Hills Elementary schools.
- To be accommodating for new skiers, beginner and intermediate loops were created.
- Reminder that the grand Opening Event is scheduled for Feb 4th, 2023, at 1:00 pm.

Racial Equity Training: Antonio Montez - Diversity, Inclusion and Organizational Development

Mark reiterated the Commission Member's long-standing request to be provided with some Racial Equity training that facilitates aligning the Parks Commission members to a common understanding and shared language of Racial Equity within the framework of Ramsey County.

In this part one of three trainings, there are 6 Ramsey County Equity Assumptions that are explored and agreed upon; Race Matters, People are Good, Focus on Systems and Institutions, Focus on the Thread of Racism, and Clean-up Our Mess.

- The training portion of this meeting will be available on Zoom until April 5th for review.
https://zoom.us/rec/share/OV5AY3tSliX_F8fKxdKgsE8tLlr1vrhpBOFGr1jSzCJDSzkjphL7iAfJ4rnFjv-5. S_m578pLyD1RsXI?startTime=1673481249000
Please use Passcode: H=77fp2B

Commission members expressed interest in participating in the remaining trainings. This would need to be explored outside regularly scheduled meetings since there are advisory items that Parks needs the Commissions input on for the next few meetings.

Commission Member Update:

Brian reported on a productive touch base with Commissioner Trista MatasCastillo and reminded members to take time to touch base with their respective Commissioners. Angie Marlette will ask the Chief Clerks office whom new members should connect with since appointments are no longer following districting.

Director Update:

Mark reported that the two new County Commissioners were sworn in recently and are attending orientations with all the divisions.

A motion for adjournment was made by Snowden Her, the was meeting adjourned at 7:55p.

Next Meeting: February 8th, 2023