



**South St. Paul
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Minutes of February 11th, 2025
City Hall**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting was called to order by Mr. Dippel at 6:02 p.m. at South St. Paul City Hall.

Members Present: Rich Dippel, Cretia Radman, Josh Regan, Nicole Hall, Kendra Sommerfeld, Sadie Patet

Members Absent: Lori Miller

Others Present: Shannon Young, Heather Flock, Colin Trudgeon, Pam Bakken

1. INTRODUCTIONS

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Dippel and seconded by Ms. Sommerfeld to approve Minutes of January 9th, 2025.
6 Yays 0 Nays

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. Recreation Program Updates – Outdoor Rinks, Flannel Fest, Candlelight Snowshoe

Mr. Trudgeon shared that his Warming Houses and rinks are still open. As we have a lot of ice this winter, the rinks have been operational for the past two months. Mr. Trudgeon noted the weather is expected to warm up in a few weeks in which they will monitor day to day for safety protocol. Mr. Trudgeon shared that the Flannel Fest Events went well. Good attendance at all events, except for Flapjacks and Flannels. He alluded to the sub-zero temperatures as the reasoning for the low turnout. Mrs. Flock shared that the Candlelight Snowshoe event is coming up on February 18th, and it was postponed from its original date due to lack of snow.

3B. Park Master Plan Organization Update

Ms. Young mentioned that she compiled the rankings based on the notes from our last meeting. Mr. Dippel made the point that since the playgrounds are in the CIP, we can remove them from the rankings list. Mr. Dippel summarized the council work session from 2/10/25 and said that the council would be comfortable with \$8 to \$9 million to support a project. Ms. Bakken and Mr. Dippel both agreed that having one site for a pool is more reasonable. Mr. Dippel would love to see a list from each commission member that includes their top 6-7 wants on the park master plan. Mr. Dippel stated he would like to see Harmon Park's update be prioritized. Ms. Radman stated that the Pickleball courts at Kaposia Landing should be prioritized. Ms. Patet advocated for the Nature Play Area and Picnic Shelter at Seidl's. Ms. Bakken mentioned that Simon's Ravine could use a facelift. Veterans Field was also mentioned as a playground that should be built sooner to be later. A permanent Disc Golf Building at Kaposia Park was also mentioned as an option.

3C. Doug Woog Arena Updates

Mrs. Young shared that rink 2 lights were replaced with LED lights. This will help save money and lights up the rink in a better way. The rink has been busy this winter. Ms. Young noted all the upcoming tournaments happening in the next month. Ms. Young noted the staff will remain busy post winter hockey season and the staff is doing an excellent job.

3D. CIP Project

Mrs. Young shared that Summit Park, Kaposia Park, Grandview Park, and Lorraine Park are set to have new playgrounds this year. Lorraine may be postponed until next year due to the grant that was submitted that will pay for half of the project. The grant will not be awarded until late June or early July. Those are all of the parks listed for 2025. In 2026 and 2027, the remainder if the playgrounds are expected to be completed via CIP funding. The CIP is a holding spot for projects and may be extended.

3E. Community Pool & Feasibility Study & Design Update

Ms. Young shared there will be an open house on March 19th which will be led by JLG the pool consultant. The purpose of the open house is to get community consensus on what the next chapter of the aquatics within the city. Ms. Young is hopeful that they will receive the necessary feedback they need to move forward with a plan.

3F. Commissioners Park Updates

No park updates.

3G. Staff Updates

4. NEW BUSINESS

4A. Brochure Format

Mrs Young shared that the brochure is almost done. It is expected to be sent out to homes by March 1st.

4B. Spring Egg Hunt

Mrs. Young shared that we have our egg hunt coming up in April.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

6. ADJOURNMENT – Next Meeting: March 11th, 2025 City Hall Training Room.

Motion by Mr. Dippel, first by Mr. Regan and second Mr. Hall by at 6:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Colin Trudgeon