



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

WebEx Meeting

MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Shannon Crouthers, Chair; Rick Eriksen, Marty Tessmer, Danielle Lammon, Nick Kinney, Steve Sundberg, Angela Zbikowski, Mike Ely

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bobbie McClure

OTHERS PRESENT: Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space; Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation; Nancy Freed, Deputy City Manager, and Suzie Jaquith, Recording Secretary.

OTHERS ABSENT: None.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** By Parks & Recreation Board Chair, Shannon Crouthers at 5:00p.m.
- II. INTRODUCTIONS:** None
- III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** The Agenda for the October 7, 2020 meeting was approved after a motion was made by Member Lammon and seconded by Member Kinney.
- IV. ADOPTION OF PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES -** The Minutes for the September 2, 2020 meeting were approved after a motion was made by Member Eriksen and seconded by Member Lammon
- V. BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS/REMINDERS**
 - A. Greeting and PROS Update – Brooke Bell, Director of Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department, reported she attended a PROS Fall special event at Red-tailed Hawk Park that was organized by the Special Events and Marketing Division. 250 pumpkins were handed out along with craft/sticker kits to decorate the pumpkins. Next week, a similar event will be held at Moorhead Park. On October 30th, a drive through Halloween event called Boo’s Cruise will be held at Aurora Sports Park. Pre-packaged candy and craft kits will be handed out to families as they drive through the park in their vehicles. A Veteran’s event is being planned at the Freedom Memorial site. 250 reservations will be accepted and offer a boxed breakfast to participants. Holiday “pop-up” events are planned in three different parks to include a scavenger hunt and craft kits. There are plans to decorate the trees with holiday lights at the Aurora Municipal Center, however, the traditional tree lighting ceremony event will not happen this year due to social distancing guidelines. A virtual event is being discussed as an alternative. Weekly Movies in the Parks continue to be popular, receiving a lot of positive feedback. With cooler weather, future movie events will be held as drive-in events at Arapahoe Racetrack. Limit of 150 cars and following social distancing guidelines from Tri-County Health. Golf continues to be very popular, exceeding revenues by \$350,000 compared to this time last year. Member Sundberg asked how special events are advertised. Director Bell answered through social media, department newsletters and the city’s website.

NOTE: By simple majority vote, Board may re-establish Agenda order. Quorum is reached with five members.



- B. Meet a PROS – Joe Sack, Manager of Recreation, gave an update on recreation facilities, program re-openings and naming of Southeast Recreation Center. Recreation centers re-opened on July 7th on a limited use basis with reservations block times of 1 hour and 15 minutes blocks available for drop-in fitness areas. Basketball was limited to 1 or 2 people from the same household. Indoor pools were re-opened on a limited basis for lap swim and water walking with reservation block times. Del Mar and Meadow Hills pools were open during the summer with 2-hour block time reservations. Indoor pools will be re-opening to allow open swim for 1 hour and 15 minutes time slots. Plans have been approved for recreation programming to resume on a limited basis to include some in-person fitness classes that will place participants at least 6 feet apart and requiring masks. Therapeutics will be engaging with their clientele as well. Tri-county Health has approved some sports activities to re-open to include limited practice and skills activities. Aurora Sports Park will be hosting the CHSAA 5,4 and 3 Girls State Softball semi-finals games and championship game in a one-day event. Using only two fields at same complex with limited spectators per player. Bleachers will not be used, instead, spectators will sit in the outfield. Virtual cooking classes are being held which has added a new dynamic where families are connected across the country, even as far away as Australia. Working with Aurora Public Schools to provide virtual pre-school programs. In-person is also an option where classes are divided into pods for social distancing. The afterschool program, COMPASS is starting to engage in in-person programming again. Schools have reached out to Recreation to help provide a safe, structured place for K-8 students to visit to remote learn on days when they are not attending in-person learning at school. Workstations at some recreation centers will be provided, 6 ft. apart for students that check in. This program, funded by the CARES Act, will be free to the public and will also provide students with breakfast, lunch and a snack. An online month-to-month, Recreation Guide that will offer recreation programs will be launched in November.
- Manager Sack shared a spreadsheet of upcoming holidays and asked for recommendations from board members on whether recreation centers and indoor pools should be kept open on and around these holidays. They include, Veteran's Day, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve. He explained, typically, there is very low attendance on these days. While members recommendations varied; the overall response was to close facilities as recommended. Manager Sack thanked members for their input and will take all into consideration when making a final decision.
- Manager Sack asked members for recommendations of next steps in naming the Southeast Recreation Center. The name "Southeast" was assigned as a working name for the project. With the groundbreaking of the recreation center scheduled for January, a unique name that is more in line with Aurora and the community is desired. He shared a short list of suggested names that were voted on by PROS staff, and other city department staff working on the project. Staff also have decided whatever name is chosen, "Recreation Center and Fieldhouse" will be added to the end of the name. Harvest Recreation Center and Fieldhouse received most votes.



Harvest is the major street that runs north and south in front of the facility. Members discussed different names and how to include the public. Most agreed a public announcement after the name is chosen would be enough. Manager Sack thanked members for their input and will take all into consideration when making a final decision.

VI. BOARD MEMBERS REMARKS

A. Comments from Board Members

- A member commented there is a plastic bridge on the playground at Hampden Run Park that his grandson keeps getting his foot caught in. Director Bell will alert staff to inspect for any safety issues and make adjustments/repairs as needed.
- Director Bell requested a Budget Update be added to the November 7th meeting Agenda.

VII. FUTURE MEETINGS

A. Wednesday, November 7, 2020, WebEx Meeting, Meet A PROS - TBD

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Member Zbikowski made a motion to adjourn and Member Ely seconded. The motion passed at 6:32 p.m.

Shannon E. Crouthers
Shannon E. Crouthers (Feb 2, 2021 09:14 MST)

Shannon Crouthers, Chair;
Parks & Recreation Board

Suzie Jaquith
Suzie Jaquith, Recording Secretary

ADOPTED _____

PRAB October 7 2020 Minutes_Final BSB

Final Audit Report

2021-02-02

Created:	2021-02-02
By:	Suzie Gilroy Jaquith (sjaquith@auroragov.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAGUJAax2Qc9qQ6KsFrjhh_rjmLR4KJL8G

"PRAB October 7 2020 Minutes_Final BSB" History

-  Document created by Suzie Gilroy Jaquith (sjaquith@auroragov.org)
2021-02-02 - 4:12:48 PM GMT- IP address: 50.237.6.50
-  Document emailed to Shannon E. Crouthers (shancrouthers@gmail.com) for signature
2021-02-02 - 4:14:16 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Shannon E. Crouthers (shancrouthers@gmail.com)
2021-02-02 - 4:14:24 PM GMT- IP address: 75.71.100.10
-  Document e-signed by Shannon E. Crouthers (shancrouthers@gmail.com)
Signature Date: 2021-02-02 - 4:14:49 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 75.71.100.10
-  Agreement completed.
2021-02-02 - 4:14:49 PM GMT