

SCOTT COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION PRELIMINARY AGENDA

6:00 P.M. – October 7, 2020

***** Note Meeting Location and Time Change*****

Meeting location: Cleary Lake Visitor Center

1) Roll Call – Pat Stieg, Chair

Kristin French, At Large
Kathy Gerlach, District 3
Barb Hedstrom, District 1
Jerry Hennen, At Large
Eric Spieler, District 2
Patrick Stieg, District 5
Mark Ewert, District 4
Commissioner Jon Ulrich, Scott County Board Liaison

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Approve Agenda

4) Approve Meeting Minutes for September 2, 2020

5) Recognition of Interested Citizens for Items Not on the Agenda (No action will be taken.)

6) Operations and Natural Resources

7) Outreach, Visitor Services, Recreation and Education

a. Healthy Hour Activity for PAC members (6:10PM)

b. Recreation Programs Update (6:55PM)

c. Golf Programs Update (7:05PM)

8) Administration, Planning and Development

a. Update on Cleary Master Plan (7:20PM)

9) Informational Items (7:40PM)

a. Projects/Other Updates (Verbal)

i) Prior Lake Pickleball Project at Spring Lake

b. Advisory Commissioner Reports (Verbal)

10) Upcoming Meetings - Tentative Topics (7:45PM)

a. November PAC Meeting

i) Acquisition Opportunities Update

ii) Cleary Master Plan – Draft Community Engagement Plan; Resident Strategy Team Update;
Process Overview

11) Adjourn (8:00PM)

SCOTT COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES August 12, 2020

The Scott County Parks Advisory Commission held their September meeting on September 2, 2020 on the Holmes Street Historic Bridge in Shakopee, MN. Staff members present were Patty Freeman, General Manager of Scott County Parks and Trails, Nathan Moe, Parks Planner, Alysa Delgado, Parks and Natural Resources Coordinator, and Jake Grussing, Library Director.

- 1) **Roll Call:** Chair Pat Stieg called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM and proceeded with the roll call.
Members Present: Kristin French, Kathy Gerlach, Jerry Hennen, Eric Spieler, Patrick Stieg, Barb Hedstrom and Mark Ewert.
Members Absent: Commissioner Jon Ulrich

- 2) **The Pledge of Allegiance followed roll call.**

- 3) **Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Ewert second by Commissioner Gerlach to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- 4) **Approval of meeting minutes for 08/12/20**

Motion by Commissioner Ewert second by Commissioner Hedstrom to approve the 08/12/20 meeting minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 5) **Recognition of Interested Citizens for Items Not on Agenda**

- No citizen comments.

- 6) **Administration, Planning, and Development**

a. **Cleary Master Plan**

i. **Master Planning Teams**

- Staff expect to have a Citizen Design Team and a Technical Team

(i) **Citizen Design Team**

- residents, park users and non-park users, individuals from underrepresented groups, Park Advisory Commission members

(ii) **Technical Team**

- Maintenance, Facilities & Operations, Natural Resources, Planning, Public Engagement, Highway, Landscape Architecture, Engineering, Programming, Administrative Support, Consultants, City and Township officials

ii. **Engagement Network Inventory**

- Staff has prepared a draft engagement network directory for the PAC to review and contribute to either during the meeting or in the coming weeks as staff launches the planning process
- iii. Kick-Off Events
- Starting in October, staff will be holding a series of public tours and small events at Cleary Lake Regional Park. Planning is still underway, but the goal is to attract both existing and new park users for general feedback as well as to provide invitations to be a part of the planning process.
- Commissioner Hedstrom asked if the vision for the technical team is to include County staff and Three Rivers staff with various skills including GIS and marketing. Staff answered yes, and that they plan to evaluate the skillsets that are present among known staff and identify gaps in order to add strategic members. Staff also hopes to get administrative support from the County level.
 - Commissioner French asked if there will be times that the two teams (technical and resident teams) are working separately, but then come together with ideas. Staff answered yes.
 - Chair Stieg asked if the goal was to still have an application process like previous master planning efforts. Staff answered yes.
 - Commissioner Hedstrom indicated that it is important to involve other areas of the County, such as New Prague, Jordan, and Belle Plaine in the process to get experience with Master Planning, especially looking forward with Parks & Trails goals. She also indicated that the teams should include members from smaller park boards and councils.
 - Commissioner Ewert asked what the ideal size is for these two teams. Staff answered 12-15 individuals. Ewert commented that for some of these events that will be virtual, this is the maximum number for efficient conversation. Commissioner Spieler agreed.
 - Commissioner French indicated that because Cleary is unique with golf and camping, we need residents who are utilizing these amenities on the team to provide input.
 - Commissioner Hennen asked if there are plans to seek out a diverse group of residents for the Design Team. Staff responded with yes, and then introduced the community partners matrix that included lists of contact names and information for local groups and community members from targeted populations.
 - Commissioner Spieler indicated that the park user population has been visibly more diverse across many qualifiers over the last six months.
 - Staff asked if any Commissioners were interested in helping facilitate October events. Everyone raised their hand in support.

7) Operations and Natural Resources

- No updates.

8) Outreach, Visitor Services, Recreation and Education

- No updates.

9) Informational Items

a. Projects/Other Updates (Verbal)

- Prior Lake Pickleball Project at Spring Lake
 - The Pickleball project will be moving further North than expected, alleviating the need to share a parking lot with the Spring Lake off-leash dog park.

b. Advisory Commissioner Reports (Verbal)

- Commissioner Spieler shared his latest participation in a fitness and beer passport challenge that encouraged users to take photos after logging fitness activities in exchange for beer at breweries. This is a nationwide program, and he mentioned he frequently saw people posting photos at Cleary Lake Regional Park. He indicated that the parks should have some sort of incentive program, or a monthly drawing for swag from tagged social media posts.
- Commissioner Stieg mentioned his participation in the latest “Healthy Hour” program held by Three Rivers, Scott County Parks and Trails and Scott County Public Health, and that he enjoyed the experience. While he mentioned more details are to come on this program, he indicated that Carver and Scott Counties both plan on financially supporting a health in parks program through SHIP funding in the foreseeable future.

10) Upcoming Meetings – Tentative

a. October 7, 2020

- Recreation Programs – Spring and Summer Summary and Plan for Winter
- Healthy Hour Program
- Cleary Master Plan

11) Adjourn

**Motion by Commissioner Spieler; Second Commissioner Hennen to adjourn the meeting.
The motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:46 pm. Following the meeting, the commissioners, staff, and guests followed Heather Hoagland, Executive Director of the Scott Historical Society, for a tour of the MN Valley State Trail to learn an introduction to the Scott County Cultural Consortium. Jake Grussing, County Library Director, also joined the tour.

Pat Stieg, Chair

Date

Patty Freeman, General Manager of Parks and Trails

PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: 7.a. Healthy Hour Program

MEETING DATE: October 7, 2020

PREPARED BY: Alysa Delgado

REQUESTED ACTION: Information and Discussion

The goal of this memo is to inform the Parks Advisory Commission members about a new program, Healthy Hour, that focuses on exploring mental wellness in the parks while providing participants with information and resources about park amenities. Three Rivers and Scott County staff will also lead an abridged version of the program for introduction and discussion.

Background

Healthy Hour is a new program that focuses on mental wellness and park awareness. This program is a combined effort between Scott County Parks & Trails, Scott County Public Health, and Three Rivers Park District. The idea is a result of the Scott-Carver ParkRx Partnership Team meetings that occurred late 2019 – early 2020, though it is not directly affiliated with the ParkRx national initiative. Understanding that the circumstances around starting a new program within a pandemic, staff is hoping to introduce this health-themed program in Scott County as a pilot. This will allow staff to test and change the program to better prepare for future engagement with community provider partners.

The goals of Healthy Hour include...

To provide:

- an hour of beginner-friendly and low-impact activity for residents
- information about nearby parks, trails, and recreational amenities
- information about the health benefits of being outside and local public health resources

This program first started on the ground in August 2020. So far, three Healthy Hour programs have taken place at Cleary Lake Regional Park. Of these programs, two have been adult-focused and one has been family-focused, acknowledging that different groups of individuals have different needs in a wellness program.

A sample agenda for an adult-focused program is as follows:

- 10 – 10:10** Start off with introductions, getting a sense of participants awareness of the park(s)
- 10:10 – 10:20** have a guided walk along the trails highlighting some of the amenities
- 10:20 – 10: 30** Pause by the lake or under a peaceful patch of trees and complete a “grounding” exercise (guided meditation, reading, sensory activity)
- 10:30 – 11:00** continue the walk & stopping at engaging points or participating in a different rec activity (like geo-caching)
- 11:00** Conclude the program

While the program is still in its infancy and staff is still working to adjust a marketing plan and strategic timeslot to best fit the needs of the community, staff has received positive comments from participants.

There are future Healthy Hours scheduled for:

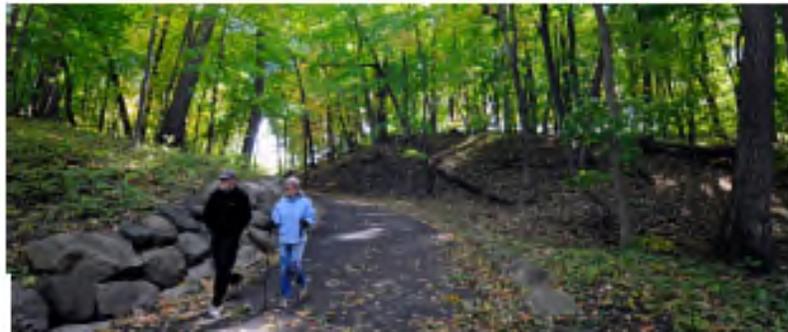
October 1 @ Spring Lake Regional Park 8 – 9 AM

October 15 @ Cleary Lake Regional Park 5 – 6 PM

October 29 @ Cleary Lake Regional Park 8 – 9 AM

Tyler Thompson, Outdoor Recreation Specialist, and Alysa Delgado, Parks and Natural Resources Coordinator, will lead the Parks Advisory Commission and guests in an abridged version of the program.

Attached: Program Flyer



Healthy Hour

Free and open to all!

Thursday, October 1, 8-9 AM, Spring Lake, Ages 14+

Thursday, October 15, 5-6 PM, Cleary, Ages 5+

Thursday, October 29, 8-9 AM, Cleary, Ages 14+

Meet in front of the Visitor Center dressed for the weather, no reservation necessary, but registration is encouraged.

Do you know that combining an activity with the outdoors increases physical, mental and emotional well-being? Three Rivers Park District in Partnership with Scott County Public Health invites you to Healthy Hour; a 1-hour, entry-level recreation activity in our park and lead by staff. Plus, participants will also learn about park amenities and resources to support future park use.

For more information or to register call
763.559.6700 or visit ThreeRiversParks.org.



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PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: 7.b. Recreation Programs (Non-Golf) Update

MEETING DATE: October 7, 2020

PREPARED BY: Tyler Thompson

REQUESTED ACTION: Information and discussion.

Staff will provide an overview of 2020 recreation programs for information and discussion.

While 2020 has been a challenging year, there is still much to be proud of for outdoor recreation programs in Three Rivers-Scott County parks. A successful year in 2019 set us up for further growth and success in 2020. An abundance of snow led to great conditions for winter programs and high public participation numbers in 2020. A busy spring and summer were planned but quickly slowed down. Three of our largest participation areas include spring public programs, private group education, and summer camps. All of these included a drastic reduction as a result of the pandemic and stay at home mandates. Throughout the summer, our program offerings and group sizes were adapted to ensure health and safety of staff and participants without compromising on the high level of quality we strive to provide. Public program participation in the summer and fall is greater or nearly equal to prior years with our annual participation estimated to be 20-25% of 2019.

Attachments

-2020 recreation programs results



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Outdoor Recreation Review 2020

Outdoor Recreation School (ORS)

Tyler Thompson, Recreation Program Specialist

Fall 2019 and Winter 2019-20

- Think back to before everything changed....
- Successful fall and winter public programming with increasing participation and decreasing cancelation rates

Season	Fall		Winter	
Year	2018	2019	2018-19	2019-20
% Canceled	20%	12%	75%	0%
Enrollment	61	127	98	189

Winter 2019-20

- 4 winter field trips for International Walking Club
- Maple Syrup demo with Anchor Center for Mental Health



Spring 2020

- No public or in person programs
- 3 distance learning sessions with the International Walking Club
 - Self-led Spring Lake scavenger hunt
- Weekly digital content shared via Facebook and social media channels



Summer 2020 – A season of change

- Regular disinfecting of equipment
- Smaller group sizes
- Pre-class health assessment
- Outdoor only
- Limited activities with social distancing

- Challenges include equipment limitations, space, severe weather, and smaller program and staff capacity

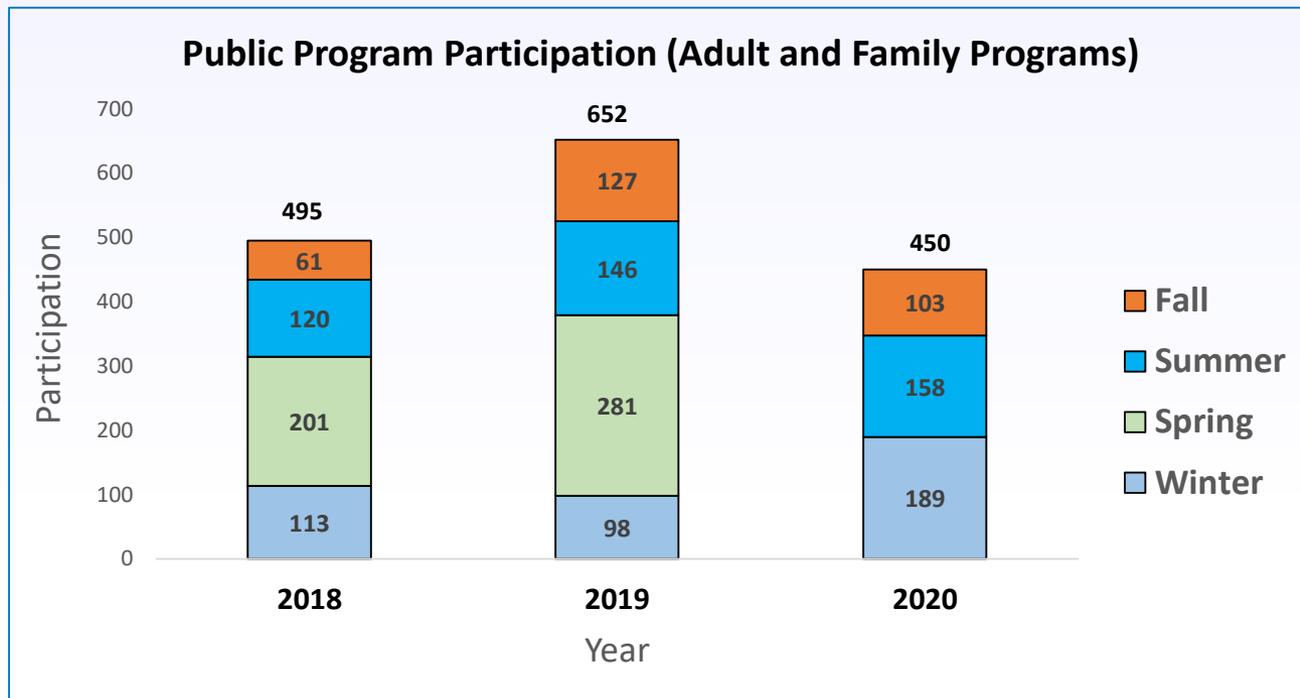
Summer 2020 – A season of change

- Summer camps participation was 10% of 2019
- 5 camps compared to 15
- Fewer activities and offerings
- Summer public programs were very successful
- Private summer camp with Prior Lake-Savage schools

Public Programs				
Year	Offered	Canceled	% Canceled	Enrollment
2018	19	9	47%	162
2019	19	11	58%	146
2020	14	3	21%	158

Annual Comparison

- 2020 is an estimate; still ongoing
- Annual public participation will be 20-25% of previous year
 - Does not include summer camps or private groups



Coming up next...

- Fall after school programs with Prior Lake-Savage Schools
 - middle school archery series, and elementary outsiders club
- Monthly virtual learning sessions with International Walking Club
- Fall public program participation on par with 2019
- Winter offerings will be comparable to previous winter
- Demand is still there



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PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: 7.c. Golf Programs Update

MEETING DATE: October 7, 2020

PREPARED BY: Tom Balk

REQUESTED ACTION: For information.

Staff will provide an overview of golf programming (summer camps and lessons) for 2020. Golf programming looked different this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Tom Balk will provide information on how programs were operated, results of the summer, and lessons learned.

PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: 8.a. Cleary Master Plan

MEETING DATE: October 7, 2020

PREPARED BY: Nathan Moe

REQUESTED ACTION: Updates and Feedback

Staff has begun engagement with the community to support the update to the Cleary Lake Regional Park Master Plan. This memo serves to provide an update on our plans for community engagement in the early phase of the planning effort.

Community Engagement Plans

While the weather will still allow for people to comfortably meet with staff in the parks, staff has scheduled 7 events during the month of October. This includes 6 tours and one campfire cookout. The details of those events are as follows:

All-Wheels Loop - October 11th and October 24th @ 1:00 PM

Skate, bike, or roller-ski around the paved lake loop with park staff. Suitable for all ages.

Bikes will be available on a 1st-come 1st-serve basis or bring your own non-motorized wheels!

Meet at the Lakeview Shelter.

Blade the Lake - October 19th @ 3:30 PM (one additional tour was completed on October 6th)

Bring your rollerblades or skates and join park staff for a guided tour of the paved trails in Cleary! Equipment will not be provided.

Meet at the Lakeview Shelter.

Hike the Hills - October 8th and October 21st @ 4:30 PM

Join park staff for a guided hike around the park on the unpaved trails! No hiking experience necessary. Meet outside the Cleary Lake Visitor Center.

Campfire Cookout - October 16th from 3 - 7 PM

Get your roasting sticks ready! Drop in to enjoy some snacking by the camp-re and chat future park plans with your fellow residents and park staff! Light snacks provided.

Meet at the Oak Grove Campsite.

The events will focus on introducing the planning process to the community and to recruit for the Resident Strategy Team ("RST").

The events were shared on Social Media throughout the county – including being shared by many of the city's social media accounts, the Shakopee Diversity Alliance and the SMSC. The flyers for these events and to notify the public of the RST are in the process of being distributed and displayed within the community. Translations of these flyers has also begun with the help of the Scott County Volunteer coordinator's assistance.

We will continue to pursue recruitment for the RST as well as work with the PAC to identify planning goals and assistance with shaping the vision of the master plan.