

JOINT CITIZEN ADVISORY AND PARKS & RECREATION MEETING MINUTES
HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA STREET, NEW MEADOWS

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

Present at City Hall was Parks & Recreation member Jim Slettum. Present via Zoom were Parks & Recreation Member Darbey Edwards and Citizen Advisory Committee Member Sandy Schiffman.

Staff present at City Hall were Mac Qualls and Angie Mettie.

Darbey Edwards opened the meeting at 6:37 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion Items

The Committee reviewed the Park Master Plan with inserted items from their last meeting, including the committee purpose statement, the document purpose statement, park history, and playground inventory. Committee Member Schiffman inquired about any requirements by the donor of the park in regard to its use. Mettie will research any stipulations that were given along with the donation of the park.

The Committee then discussed Recreational Activities and Community Events.

Current city summer recreational programs include baseball. Soccer is very popular, and a city soccer program might be started. Committee Member Schiffman will talk with an experienced coach about startup costs and needs for setting up a soccer program.

Current school recreational programs include traditional sports of football, volleyball, basketball, and track. These are sometimes cancelled due to lack of players. It was noted that some Meadows Valley students attend McCall schools to participate in their athletic programs. The Committee would like to have a stronger relationship with the school in order to share recreational interests and work together on student programs. Committee Member Slettum will talk with faculty at the school and will see if anyone may be interested in joining the committee or sharing information with the committee that would help further recreation in New Meadows. This person will be invited to the next meeting.

United States Forest Service Recreational areas were discussed. Committee Member Edwards stated that trail walks could be arranged for students. Logistics would include a liability waiver, transportation, and a leader for the walks.

The Weiser River Trail provides much recreation for walkers and cyclists. Committee Member Edwards stated that the Weiser River Trail group meets quarterly, and is working with ITD, the City, and other entities on bringing the trail into New Meadows. Because of the many entities involved, the process has been slow. Bringing the trail into the city would also bring opportunities such as overnight camping, shuttle services, mid-trail meal services, and possibly showers. A donation could be requested if amenities were available for Trans-American Trail riders.

The Meadow Creek Resort offers golf in the summer and a cross-country trail in the winter. It was unclear whether skiers could ski on the golf course in the winter. Committee Member Schiffman stated that near Stanley, ranchers opened their farmlands to snowmobilers and cross country skiers. This might be a possibility in Meadows Valley.

Winter recreational sports include skiing at Brundage Mountain and the Little Ski Hill, both of which are in Adams County. Brundage Mountain owners are working on housing for their employees. The Little Ski

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Hill currently has an afterschool ski programs for students of New Meadows. Committee Member Edwards stated that a relationship could be built between these entities and the City by asking how the City could support their programs. Committee Member Schiffman will talk with Rory Mehen regarding how he works with the ski hills in giving discounts to pass holders. Committee Member Slettum will talk with a person at the Little Ski Hill to see what the City could do to support them.

The Dog Sled Races are another winter recreational activity that has become popular in recent years. This race helps to qualify racers for the Iditarod. A portion of the race runs through Meadows Valley and could help to bring visitors in.

These ideas will be added to the Park Master Plan for review at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angie Mettie, Secretary

DRAFT