

**ROSEVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES FOR
MAY 6, 2025 6:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Arneson, Botzek, Harris, Kooistra, Matts-Benson, Penny.
ABSENT: Beckman, Boulton, Donaldson, Her.
STAFF: Breuer, McDonagh, Johnson.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

2. ROLL CALL/PUBLIC COMMENT

Roll Call Commissioners: A. Arneson, Botzek, Harris, Kooistra, Matts-Benson, Penny.

No public in attendance.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 1, 2025 MEETING

Commissioner Botzek moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Arneson seconded.

Roll Call

Ayes: Arneson, Botzek, Harris, Kooistra, Matts-Benson, Penny.

Nays: None.

Abstain: None.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

a) CEDARHOLM GOLF AND COMMUNITY BUILDING, AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES UPDATE

Cedarholm Golf Course and Community Building staff members—Superintendent Sean McDonagh and Recreation Program Supervisor Scott Breuer—introduced themselves to the commission members. Staff gave a presentation to the Commission, providing an overview of current operations, usage trends, and anticipated challenges at the Cedarholm Golf Course and Community Building. They also noted that they will share information about other community facilities:

Cedarholm Golf Course Basics

- Par-3 golf course
- Minnesota’s top 9-hole course
- No driving range
 - Small putting green

- Pro-shop with merchandise
- Contracted catering with Tio's
- Licensed to sell beer, wine, seltzers
- Employ 20 part-time and seasonal staff
- Rounds of golf in the past five years:
 - 2024 – 29,749 rounds of golf
 - 2023 – 25,486 rounds of golf
 - 2022 – 25,550 rounds of golf
 - 2021 – 27,333 rounds of golf
 - 2020 – 23,500 rounds of golf
- Similar courses nearby:
 - Brightwood Hills (New Brighton), Island Lake (Shoreview), Gem Lake Hills (White Bear Lake), Mendota Heights Par 3, Brookland (Brooklyn Park)

Golf Leagues

- Approximately 1,200 participants
 - Morning Ladies Leagues (Mon-Thu), Evening Ladies Leagues (Mon & Thu), Evening Co-Rec League (Tue), Senior League (Fri), Private Leagues (Wed & Thu; 3 total), Junior League (Mon)

Youth Classes and School Golf

- SNAG (Starting New At Golf) – Ages 4-8
- High School Practices, Matches, and Tournaments (RAHS, SPPS, Mounds View, Irondale, Concordia, etc.)
- Mini Camp – Beginners: Age 8-10, Advanced Beginner: Age 11-13

Tournaments and Golf Events

- Cedarholm Directed:
 - Nine & Dine, Rosefest Golf Event, Women, Wine & (no) Whiffs, and Golftoberfest
- Private Events:
 - MN PGA Mini-Tour and Private Tournaments

Cedarholm in the Winter

- Ski Trails (1 mile)
- Snowshoe Opportunities
- Candlelight Snowshoe Event
- Building Rental and Usage

Cedarholm Community Building:

- Approximately 250-300 uses/year
- Fee Based Rentals
 - Special Events: Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, Retirement, Baby/Bridal Shower, Class Reunion, Celebration of Life, School Sports Banquets, Wedding Reception
 - Weekly Rentals: Roseville Rotary, Church Worship Service, Business Networking
 - Meetings: Various daytime and evening rentals
- Non-fee Usage
 - Cedarholm Golf Events: League-ending Socials, Tournaments
 - Cedarholm Programs/Community Events: Open Mic Night, Music on the Patio, Candlelight Snowshoeing, cookies and Cocoa with Kris Kringle, FOR Parks Designer Bag Bingo
 - City of Roseville Sponsored Meetings: Various Departments

New at Cedarholm:

- Music on the Patio (expanded in 2025)
- Streamlined League Registration process
- Youth on Course
- Potential to increase cart fleet (from 15 to 18)

Upgrades and Capital Improvements

- Community Building:
 - Interior Painting
 - Exterior Painting
 - Upgrading TVs in rental space
- Golf Course:
 - Irrigation Clock Replacement
 - Mid-size Mower Replacement
 - Pick-up Truck Replacement (shared)
 - Drain-tile Project
- Continuation of EAB Program
- Planning for future Maintenance Shop

Future Considerations

- Environmental Changes: Trees with diseases/insects
- Cost of Turf Equipment and Supplies

Park Buildings – Facility Information

- Six Park Buildings were constructed in 2015 and 2016 at Autumn Grove, Lexington, Rosebrook, Oasis, Sandcastle, and Villa Park
- Similar events/usage as Cedarholm Community Building
 - 1,119 usages in 2024
- Staffed facilities (some roving Leads)

Central Park Picnic Shelters – Facility Information

- Lexington – Jaycees, Victoria – Foundation and Lions, Dale – FOR Parks
- 426 usages in 2024 (April 15-October 15)
- Various Special Use Permits during Season
- Restrooms open to the public 7am-10pm
- Unstaffed facilities 0 renter picks up the key from City Hall

Central Park Muriel Sahlin Arboretum – Facility Information

- Pavilion or Grounds
- Building nearby with restrooms and dressing rooms
- Rentals available June 1 – October 15

Harriet Alexander Nature Center (HANC) – Facility Information

- Upper or Lower-Level Rental Options (upper-level rental available after visitor hours)
- The facility offers great access to the boardwalk

Staff emphasized that the Cedarholm Golf Course and Community Building offer a wide range of recreational opportunities beyond golf, including community events and facility rentals. They also noted that golf is a lifetime sport that can be enjoyed at Cedarholm by both experienced and inexperienced players.

Chair Matts-Benson asked whether adult golf lessons have ever been considered. Staff responded that adult lessons have been offered in the past; however, due to the abundance of hands-on learning opportunities already available within the community, formal teaching programs have not been offered recently, as there has not been a strong demand.

Commissioner Penny inquired about environmental planning for the golf course, noting that golf courses are often perceived as environmentally detrimental. Staff explained that Cedarholm's environmental impact is continually monitored and addressed. Recent efforts include the use of organic chemicals, the planting of native plants and trees, and careful review of all tree removals, with replacements planted when necessary. Additionally, irrigation practices are intentionally timed and managed to minimize environmental impact.

Commissioner Kooistra asked about the use of volunteers at Cedarholm. Staff responded that volunteers play an important role in supporting both golf course operations and community events, they are used whenever possible to help ensure everything runs smoothly. Commissioner Kooistra suggested adding a question for golf course users or facility renters to gauge their willingness to volunteer in the future, to encourage greater volunteer engagement among participants.

Commissioner Kooistra asked about the potential to use winter trails for additional activities, such as fat-tire biking. Staff responded that they are continually exploring ways to increase usage of the course during non-golf months, while ensuring that any activities do not cause damage to the turf.

Commissioner Botzek expressed how much she enjoys golfing at Cedarholm and praised both the quality of the course and the community building. She also commended the staff for the excellent job they do in maintaining and managing the facilities.

b) CITY OF ROSEVILLE STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Staff reiterated the importance of the City's Strategic Plan in ensuring that everyone is working toward agreed-upon, shared goals. They noted that the City Council recently adopted 21 goals along with corresponding community aspirations and success indicators. Staff highlighted several of the goals, community aspirations, and success indicators that directly relate to the work of the Parks and Recreation Commission:

Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure

- Goal #1 – Develop and implement a strategic funding strategy that prioritizes key capital improvements that are planned, regularly assessed and evolve based on city values and changing community needs.
- Goal #2 – Implement the civic master plan on time, within budget, and with community input.
- Goal #3 – city infrastructure supports the sustainability goals of the city.

Parks and Natural Environment

- Goal #1 – Parks and natural resources are preserved, maintained and enhanced to ensure a broad cross-section of community members actively use and participate in our parks, activities and facilities.
- Goal #2 – Roseville's natural environment is actively protected and restored.

Next steps include sub-groups of staff members working to translate the adopted goals, community aspirations, and success indicators into tangible, measurable objectives. These objectives will help prioritize actions and ensure that future decisions align with and support the City's established goals.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the emphasis on, and inclusion of, specific goals related to parks. They also discussed how the success indicators and objectives would be measured, and who would be responsible for tracking and evaluating them.

Finally, the Commission discussed recent projects in which staff partnered with volunteers to complete work that directly reflected the values and goals outlined in the Strategic Plan. They also considered how the Parks and Recreation Department can use these goals to further support and advance community aspirations.

c) MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS CENTER UPDATE

The preliminary assessment of the space, conducted through a feasibility study by BKV Group, has been completed and will be presented to the City Council on June 2. Staff noted that they will remind the Commission about the presentation once the details of the City Council meeting are confirmed.

d) PREPARE FOR PARK TOURS FOR JUNE 3, 2025 MEETING

The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will begin at City Hall and then proceed with site visits to Reservoir Woods Park and Autumn Grove Park. Additional sites may be toured if time permits. Staff recommended that attendees wear comfortable walking shoes. The Commission also discussed the possibility of wearing their Parks and Recreation Commissioner shirts for the site visits.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

a) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

- The Lexington Park Playground Build event had 30 volunteers who participated in constructing the new playground. Additional construction elements are expected to be completed soon in preparation for the opening on June 1. Staff expressed gratitude to For Parks for their \$75,000 donation, as well as to all the volunteers and Parkway Pizza for their generous contributions of time and food.
- The Roseville Ice Show was held April 10-12, 2025, featuring three performances. The event included 225 participants and sold a total of 2,700 tickets.
The Roseville Dance Recital was held on May 3 and 4 at the new Roseville High School Auditorium. The event featured 102 dancers, one dress rehearsal, and two performances, drawing a total audience of 760 attendees. Staff thanked all the volunteers and dancers who made the event possible. Chair Matts-Benson noted that the Roseville School of Dance classes provide highly accessible, affordable, and equitable dance classes.
- The Kite Day in the Park event was held on April 26 at Rosebrook Park, where 300 free kites were distributed. Special thanks were given to Kiwanis Malt Shop at the MN State Fair and Do Good Roseville for generously donating the kites for the event.

- The Earth Day event was held on April 26 at the Harriet Alexander Nature Center, drawing approximately 750 attendees.
- In April, volunteers contributed over 1,100 hours of service throughout the park system. Projects included cleaning up Central Park, cutting buckthorn at Langton Lake Park, and trash pickup efforts led by corporate, scout, and civic groups. Staff gave a special thank you to Roseville's Volunteer Manager, Rachel Boggs, for coordinating with volunteer groups, as well as to all the volunteers who helped keep the parks looking their best.
- The FOR Parks Designer Handbag Bingo event will be held on May 10 at the Cedarholm Community Building.
- The Flower Power volunteer event is scheduled for May 17. Flowers for the event are generously donated by FOR Parks. Those interested in volunteering can contact Rachel Boggs at Rachel.boggs@cityofroseville.com.
- The Roseville Figure Skating Championships will take place on May 17.
- The citywide Community Garage Sale will take place on May 29–31.
- Staff recently testified at the Minnesota State Legislature in support of including the MN OVAL bonding request in this year's bonding bill. They are seeking \$1.2 million in additional funding to complete the proposed skating center renovations that were originally introduced in 2020.
- Staff noted that they will be sending out the sign-up sheet for Commissioners to register for the Discover Your Parks events.
- Rosefest 2025 will be held on June 23-29.

b) OTHER NEW OR RELEVANT COMMUNICATION ITEMS

The Commission discussed a suggestion received about potentially focusing resources on a few larger parks rather than maintaining many smaller community parks/playgrounds. In response, the Commission emphasized the importance of having numerous parks that are easily accessible to all community members, highlighting equity and neighborhood-level access as key priorities.

Chair Matts-Benson suggested creating educational communications to help the community understand the City's Park "constellations" and the rationale behind the distribution of parks throughout Roseville.

Staff noted that all public feedback received is acknowledged with a response from staff and is included in the next Commission meeting packet.

Commissioner Kooistra suggested that the Commission could consider discussing park building color schemes if the topic arises in the future.

6. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Christensen, Parks and Recreation Department Assistant