

**OSSEO PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 3, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Osseo Parks & Recreation Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Kerstin Schulz at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 3, 2023.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Committee members Dee Bonn, Dan Penny, Kerstin Schulz, Dori Trossen, Alicia Vickerman and Kara Wolf.

Absent: Committee member Ashlee Mueller.

Others present: Community Management Coordinator Jessica Rieland

3. WELCOME NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

The Committee welcomed Dan Penny to the Parks and Recreation Committee.

4. APPROVE AGENDA

**A motion was made by Vickerman, seconded by Bonn, to approve the meeting's agenda. The motion passed 6-0.**

5. APPROVE MINUTES

**A motion was made by Vickerman, seconded by Bonn, to approve the February 7, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed 6-0.**

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Schulz advised the public that this is the time for public comments. There were no public comments.

7. SPECIAL BUSINESS

There was no special business.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. REVIEW OF OSSEO SUMMER SPORTS 2023

Rieland stated at the December 2022 meeting of the Osseo Parks and Recreation Committee, the Committee decided to once again partner with Revolutionary Sports to provide youth sports options for children ages 2-12. This year saw 106 individual class registrations, which is down drastically from 338 in 2022, a 68.64% decrease. To meet minimum requirements for the program, the city paid for 11 additional registrations, which

cost \$494. It was noted planning for Summer 2024 activities will begin in late November, and staff anticipates bringing this before the Committee at its December 2023 meeting for further consideration. She requested comment from the Committee on how they want to proceed with summer sports for 2023.

Vickerman asked what the deficit was from this years sports programs. Rieland stated the deficit was \$494. She noted the Committee could consider a fee increase in order to assist with covering these fees in the future.

Schulz requested further information on what type of marketing was done for the summer sports programs in 2023. Rieland stated she understood Joe Amerman put an advertisement on the gateway sign and information was printed in the City newsletter. She indicated she could plan a more robust marketing plan for 2024.

Schulz suggested staff also provide the Committee with information on what other cities are charging for their summer sports programs. Rieland indicated she could gather this information as well as what RevSports was charging other communities.

Vickerman supported the City keeping the rates low in order to keep the program a net zero. She indicated she could support recalibrating the numbers a bit to ensure the City was covering its costs, but wanted the rates to remain on the low end.

Schulz suggested marketing information be sent in an upcoming quarterly water bill.

Penny asked that staff look into the maintenance of the basketball court.

Bonn suggested registration be taken both online and through a paper form.

Trossen requested staff also research what neighboring cities are doing and if they may be interested in pursuing a partnership with Osseo for this type of programming.

Schulz stated she wanted to see this information as well. Rieland stated between now and the Committee's next meeting she can work on a marketing plan for next year and would speak to neighboring communities. In addition, she noted she could investigate how to streamline the registration process.

## B. REVIEW OF MUSIC AND MOVIES IN THE PARK 2023

Rieland stated the 2023 Music and Movies in the Park event series began on June 13th with a performance by The Dean Weisser Band and concluded on August 22nd with a night of music put on by Snake Discovery. August 29th was set aside as a rain date, though it was not used. Throughout the series Ed Columbus of the Osseo Lions served as Master of Ceremonies and oversaw the set-up of our sunset movies. As movie attendant he was hired by the Public Works Department to manage the set-up and tear down of the movie screening equipment. He did an excellent job this year, and Public Works Director Nick Waldbillig has recommended that he be hired again in 2023.

Rieland explained at the end of the 2022 season the Music and Movies in the Park fund maintained a balance of \$20,000. For 2023 the city received the following donations: Osseo Maple Grove Hockey Association (\$5,000), Osseo Fire Department Relief Association

(\$2,000), and the Osseo Lions (\$5,500). The end of season balance of the Music and Movies in the Park Fund is \$22,500. Through the continued generosity of its donors, the city can guarantee there will be sufficient funding for future Music and Movies in the Park series for years to come. Staff requested the Committee consider and discuss the plans for 2024.

Bonn recommended the performers selected continue to be close to home. She noted she would be willing to work with Dan on a list of potential performers for 2024. She proposed hosting the raptors and snake demonstration earlier in the summer into between the concert and movie.

Trossen asked what the turnout was for the different events this past summer. She questioned why the City didn't have food trucks this past summer.

Rieland explained the City had food trucks in 2022 but these food trucks declined to return in 2023 stating the events were not worth the trip.

Bonn estimated the attendance this past summer was best at the Teddy Bear Band. She noted there was good attendance at the local band as well. She supported the classic big band going away.

Penny supported the City considering several new bands noting it would be great to bring in a country and blues or jazz band in 2024.

Trossen suggested a battle of the bands type of event be considered noting younger bands could be invited in to participate.

Schulz commented the food trucks did well in 2021, but did not do as well in 2022. She suggested staff investigate food trucks again for 2024 noting lower priced food items would do better than high priced items.

Bonn supported the City inviting the local pizza parlor and restaurants to participate in the Tuesday night events. She did not believe the City need food trucks at these events.

Penny stated popcorn, drinks and ice cream may be adequate for these events.

Rieland asked if the time of the music and movies were conducive for families.

Bonn stated she believed the times were right, given the fact it has to be dark for the movies.

Schulz indicated she supported the City pursuing food trucks because it gives families an option for their night in the park.

Schulz and Trossen volunteered to meet and discuss movies for 2024.

Wolf recommended the City look into increased advertising of the Tuesday night music and movies in the park in adjacent communities. Rieland stated she could increase the frequency of the City's social media, Instagram and Facebook posts.

Trossen suggested the City consider hosting a scavenger hunt in the community.

Rieland reported the first music and movies in the park event would be held on Tuesday, June 11.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

10. STAFF & COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

A. FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE – BOERBOOM PARK

Rieland stated staff recently toured all City facilities with Oertel Architects. She explained the City was taking an assessment of all facilities, noting the park plan was on hold for the time being.

Vickerman explained the Council was trying to consider what site would be best for City Hall. She indicated there were a lot of issues with this building and a new City Hall was necessary. She commented on the issues of building a new building while still having an operational facility.

Schulz asked when the feasibility study would be completed.

Vickerman anticipated the feasibility study would take several months to complete. Rieland indicated she could speak with the City Administrator to see what the project timeline was.

Schulz stated it would be nice to better understand the timeline given the fact the City would be celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the near future. She expressed frustration with the fact that the committee has not been kept updated with possible changes to the Park Plan. She stated that she was additionally frustrated with the fact that there appeared to be little regard for the countless hours that the committee has put into the Park Planning to date and asked that staff be more aware of the commitment and passion that the wholly volunteer time that the committee does for the city and its residents.

Vickerman welcomed Dan Penny to the Parks and Recreation Committee. She stated she supported the City looking into a pump track skills course for bikes, skateboards, and scooters.

11. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made Penny, seconded by Trossen, to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. The motion passed 6-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Guenther  
*Minute Maker Secretarial*