

City of Lake Forest Park
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting Summary
August 31, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 P.M.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tyler Dittman, Amy Hanegan, Alice Pedersen, Tony Auriemma

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:

Cory Roche – Environmental & Sustainability Specialist

Councilmember Lorri Bodi

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:

None

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Amy motioned to approve the agenda, Alice seconded the motion to approve, the agenda was approved unanimously.

REVIEW/APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

Amy motioned to approve the May Meeting Minutes, Alice seconded the motion to approve, meeting minutes approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss Ordinance 1247: Amending Chapter 12.08 of the Lake Forest Park Municipal Code regarding the use of alcohol and prohibiting intoxication in the parks.

Councilmember Bodi explained that the amendment moved fast for Battle of the Bands to have a beer garden that supports the ShoreLake Arts. Council passed with a note to bring back to the Parks Board to have a review. Cory gave a background on the current special events permit and process. The permit gets routed around to various City Departments (Police Department, Planning, Public Works, etc.) for review and are approved if staff can support and line up with our community partners providing public opportunities to support community vitality. Some wondered if the insurance coverage is enough for events like this, and Cory said she would make sure to check with City Attorney but this has always been the approved coverage. Cory also explained that the liquor board process is fairly extensive to get things like this approved. Also noted the Police Department does have an extra duty contract to hire extra patrol incase they believe the event may need extra security if they cannot support the basic coverage.

Councilmember Bodi asked the Parks Board, if they would like to propose any language changes or comments on the ordinance?

Alice stated that she has no specific language to add or amend but supports the permits to allow beer gardens at events like this. Created a nice community space and helps bring neighbors and community together. Wondered as to who can obtain permits like this in the future? Also stated that she loves Battle of the Bands is in LFP, it is a great way to show our LFP Community. Tony stated he disagrees that serving alcohol in parks should be allowed, thinks it could open doors and run into discriminatory of who we say yes and no to.

Councilmember Bodi said she understands his concern, maybe policy should be looked at to create criteria to qualify and be clearer when there are fees.

Amy stated that the requirements need to be clear, and wondered how will this be based? Think its fine to have a beer garden, as it was very well controlled. Doesn't think we should prohibit people bringing alcohol to park.

Tyler stated that what we wouldn't want in parks is having people come to parks and drinking and taking over the park, wondered if it could be in a small corner. This sets perimeters on how people can use alcohol in parks. He noticed the different themes of either no alcohol in parks, or the special permit to allow special events with alcohol following the liquor board policies.

Alice mentioned there should permits allowing beer gardens for events that are community focus and enhancing, no private parties on public spaces, would have to be involved in LFP community or with a relationship with neighboring cities. Great to have open community celebrations to parks that bring people together and give back to the community.

Councilmember Bodi wondered if there needs to be a policy in place in the ordinance and permit for these events including criteria of who can apply. Stated these could be clarified somewhere like the policy, ordinance, or application. Mentioned the Parks Board could draft a short letter expressing support with concern of the events needing to be community focus and non-profit, open to the public.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Workplan Items: Progress, Updates and Discussion Increasing Recreation Opportunities

- Yoga in the Park - Summer Stretch Series - Recap

Alice stated the series was well attended, ranging from 35 to 50 people at each one, all participants were very excited about this. Mentioned that Animal Acres was a great park to do this at. Some lessons learned included the poster and not including instructors' names or type of yoga. There was a lot of change throughout the program, started with 6 instructors and ended with just 3 but mentioned there is already interest in new instructors participating next year. The stipend worked out great but will be cautious on making sure instructors have needed insurance requirements, not all instructors have this. Hope to run again next summer, could possibly stretch it longer or include some sort of kids art activity or exercise rather than yoga. Mentioned it was a great start and could keep it similar. Thanked Amy's friend for designing the poster.

Councilmember Bodi, thought it was awesome and impressed with how it went. Thought it was a comfortable size.

Tony stated he went to a couple of the first series and thought it was great. Would have liked to of seen a little more data collected, where do they come from and how did they hear about it. Topics could be expanded other than yoga and would be interested in creating more wellness into the program.

Tyler thought it was fantastic, fun, and easy going.

Amy also mentioned it would be great to keep it free, thought it was a good opportunity to give younger people to get outside from working from home. Could look at incorporating different type of movements, would be fun to expand next year.

Cory talked about inviting the Third Place Commons Director to an upcoming meeting to chat and see if there could be any future partnership with an indoor space for a similar program. Also will be a good opportunity to see what they offer the community.

- Walking Tour and Recreation Connection – Updates

Tyler mentioned the Parks Board can work on promoting what is already out there, do an organized walk in the park. Alice mentioned it could be a morning community walk, no purpose but community building, meet your neighbors. Amy wondered if putting a survey together to see what the community recreation interests are would be useful. Councilmember Bodi mentioned that one concept that has been talked about is street closure so walking and biking is safe and accessible. Wondered how this could be made safe if you have 50 people show up to walk, going to park to park, will need to be some planning involved.

- Horizon View Tennis/Pickleball Court – Updates

Cory will be gathering bids mid-September for the work, then the project can start moving along. Amy is spearheading the fundraising for two nets that will be kept at the courts. Stated that \$3,900 has been raised so far and there will be an event in Shoreline she hopes to finish the goal.

B. Picnic in the Park – Parks Board Involvement

No Parks Board members are able to staff a booth the full day, will look to plan on having a more extensive participation next year. Group talked about Parks Board recruitment, Cory will be getting social media posts out soon.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

ADJOURN: 8:23 PM