

**Inver Grove Heights
Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, February 13, 2013
8150 Barbara Avenue
7:00pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PRESENTATIONS – Items that don't require action.
 - A. Presentation from Parks & Recreation Staff
4. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - A. You can find information regarding the City of Inver Grove Heights by visiting our web site at www.invergroveheights.org
 - B. Next Meeting; March 20, 2013 Regular Meeting 7:00pm (**NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**)
5. CONSENT AGENDA – All items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and have been made available to the Commission at least two days prior to the meeting; the times will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commission member or citizen so request, in which event the item will be removed from this Agenda and considered in normal sequence.
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2012
6. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public comment provides an opportunity for the public to address the Commission on items that are not on the Agenda. Please raise your hand to be recognized. Please state your name and address for the record. This section is for the express purpose of addressing concerns of City services and operations. It shall not be used to clarify individual's views for political purposes. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per person.
7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Items that are brought back to the Commission for action from a previous meeting.
8. REGULAR AGENDA - Items requiring action that are new to the Commission.
 - A. Discuss Renewal of Fairway Flyerz Discs, Inc. North Valley Disc Golf Operations Agreement
 - B. Review 2013-14 VMCC Ice Rates
9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS - Items that need to be discussed without any actions.
 - A. Department Happenings
 - B. Future of Our Parks Report – Park & Recreation System Plan
10. COMMISSION COMMENTS – A chance for Commissioners to ask questions or make comments.
11. ADJOURN

Since we do not have time to discuss every point presented, it may seem that decisions are preconceived. However, background information is provided to the Commission on each agenda item in advance from Staff; decisions are based on this information and past experiences. In addition, some items may have been discussed preliminarily at Work Sessions. If you are aware of information that has not been discussed, please raise your hand to be recognized. Comments that are pertinent are appreciated.

This document is available upon a 3 business day request in alternate formats such as Braille, large print, audio table, etc. Please contact Eric Carlson at 651.450.2587 or TDD/TTY 651.450.2501

**City of Inver Grove Heights Minutes of the Proceedings
Of the Park and Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, December 12, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chair Dennis Schueller called the December 12, 2012 Park and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Vice Chair Dennis Schueller; Commissioners: Mary Hapka, Joe Boehmer, Jim Huffman, Willie Krech, Chris Solberg, and Stan Johnson
Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson
Absent: Chair Al Eiden; Recording Clerk Sheri Yourczek

3. PRESENTATIONS:

A. Presentation from Parks & Recreation Staff

Parks and Recreation Director Eric Carlson stated that Al Vandehoef, Recreation Coordinator, is here this evening to update you on some programming opportunities within the City.

Recreation Coordinator Al Vandehoef stated this time of year they are gearing up for all the Winter activities. Some upcoming events are:

1. Skating with Santa takes place on Friday.
2. There will be a Candy Cane Hunt on Saturday morning and then Holiday on Main Street Saturday afternoon.

With warmer than usual weather, they are hoping to open the outdoor rinks soon. Right now they are planning on having them open, weather permitting, on December 26th, with the rinks and warming houses.

The Adult Broomball League will have their league moved from Skyview to Groveland due to having one less rink at the Skyview location.

Winter break trips for kids are back. Numbers have fallen off a bit during the last few years, but now we are bringing it back again. We are taking two trips. One is to Vertical Endeavors on the 27th and the other is snow tubing on the 28th. Parents will have this as an option for older kids to take part in during the day when there is no school.

Some events coming up in the spring:

- We will be holding a Summer Registration Kickoff in early March. With that event we hope to get information out to people with what is going on during the spring and summer. If they register that day they will get a discount for the day. There is a soccer carnival that day as well as a lacrosse clinic. By bringing all those people in for those events, they may stop by and check out the registration kickoff.
- The Lacrosse Program is starting to take off. Last year we offered something to 5th and 6th graders. Now we are seeing it spill down into younger and younger ages. Those numbers are really starting to rise. We have had a few requests for girls wanting to get involved in some of the leagues. Due to that, we are opening it up to 5th and 6th, and 7th and 8th grade girls now. Other Communities have struggled with the girls programs, so if we struggle, we can partner with another Community to get the larger numbers. There will probably be travel associated with that, but if the need is there, some may not mind it.

Commissioner Solberg asked if there is a Rugby Program starting?

Coordinator Vandehoef responded they will be offering a Rugby Clinic to see how it is received.

Vice Chair Schueller asked if we have attendants on duty at the outdoor rinks?

Coordinator Vandehoef responded they do, weather permitting. Oakwood and Skyview rinks are open seven days a week. Weekdays 4-8, Saturday's 1-9, and Sunday's 1-7. Holiday's are 1-9. Groveland is just open on weekends and Holidays.

Commissioner Huffman asked if Southern Lakes is being flooded as well?

Coordinator Vandehoef responded it's flooded, but there isn't an attendant. They have discontinued having an attendant at South Valley's rink as it seems most just come there for the sledding hill.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. You can find information regarding the City of Inver Grove Heights by visiting our Web Site at: www.invergroveheights.org
- B. Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2012

Motion by Commissioner Huffman, seconded by Commissioner Hapka, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Aye: 7
Nay: 0 Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

8. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Discuss Dog Park Issue

Director Carlson wanted to bring them up to date regarding having a Dog Park within the Community. The City Council requested an update for its November 26th meeting. Council asked us to speak about the dog park and whether or not there is an alternative location for the dog park. The process we used to locate a dog park was as follows:

-In October 2009 the Parks Commission created a Dog Park Subcommittee and asked them to study the dog park issue. They looked at all potential park property within the system and made a recommendation to consider River Heights Park as a potential location for a dog park. We had an open house for those in the area, and they were against having the park there. There were approximately 28 residents at that meeting that spoke in opposition to the location.

-In September 2010, when submitting the Heritage Village Park Master Plan, the Subcommittee contemplated having a dog park there. The general consensus was that the park was not a suitable location due to the other amenities planned for the park, so it was not recommended for that location. -Lastly, was the idea for a dog park to be located on property that the City is attempting to acquire at Lion's Park. That was the location the subcommittee recommended to the City Council. At this time, we are still working to acquire that property.

The Lion's Park location has adequate parking, rolling terrain, a trail loop, and the property could be easily fenced. The City Council asked Staff to look into other possible locations. They came up with four possibilities:

1. Property along 70th in front of the airport (Property we do not own).
2. Heritage Village Park
3. Marianna Ranch. This area has a 10 to 15 acre parcel that could be a possibility. However, there is a restriction on development there until about 2019. They are not sure if a dog park is considered development. That would be something they would need to look into.
4. The west side of the Golf Course, south of 70th Street. This is the former Golf Course property. One downside there is that the terrain is hillier and steeper there.

At this time, Staff is asking that we continue to be patient and wait to acquire the property at Lion's Park. If we decide to make a temporary park location, it is our concern that people would continue to show up there after it's been moved elsewhere. Therefore the suggestion is to wait until the property at Lion's Park is acquired.

Commissioner Solberg asked what other use the MN/DOT property would be if there was no dog park there?

Director Carlson stated the City is interested in acquiring the property to develop it with commercial, industrial, or residential development. The property would owe Park Dedication in either cash or land. As part of its dedication we could consider it being a land dedication and taking the piece next to Lion's Park and connecting it to Lion's Park. We would have a parking lot out there so that the parking lot could sit between where the dog park would be located, and where the current park is. There is no parking lot there right now, people park on the street.

Commissioner Solberg asked if there were any reasons to not have it located there?

Director Carlson responded they haven't had a neighborhood meeting there yet. There is a set of townhomes nearby, on 65th and Blaine. Those are the closest neighbors. There are no other residents adjacent to the location.

Commissioner Huffman stated he was on the subcommittee for the dog park. He likes the Lion's Park location.

Commissioner Boehmer commented that during one of their park tours, there were a number of people at Lion's Park with dogs. We also spoke about having it at Heritage Village Park, back by where the Gun Club is. Can we do anything there? It is currently open prairie.

Director Carlson stated he would have to check on the Grant restrictions on that area. He didn't think they could given the Grant they received for that property.

Commissioner Solberg asked how large of an area they were looking for?

Director Carlson responded they are looking for an area between 5 and 20 acres.

Vice Chair Schueller stated South St. Paul has a really nice dog park. He noticed it got a lot of use. Are there any other parks around us? He agreed it was a good idea to wait and use the Lion's Park site.

Director Carlson responded that Dakota County has a dog park in the Coates area. He thought both Eagan and Apple Valley had one as well.

Commissioner Huffman commented that Lion's Park has great terrain.

Commissioner Solberg stated the MN/DOT property has water on it. Will we leave it in the dog park?

Director Carlson wasn't sure where the water was located, but they would look into having it as an option.

Motion by Commissioner Huffman that we look into the Lion's Park location. Seconded by Commissioner Solberg.

Commissioner Krech suggested they look into the land down by the Gun Club. That area could be a second alternate in case it is needed. He felt they should look into two spots anyway.

Commissioner Huffman agreed with what Commissioner Krech recommendation.

Aye: 7

Nay: 0 Motion carried.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE PRESENTATIONS:

A. Department Happenings

Director Carlson stated he will stand by for any questions.

Commissioner Solberg asked when the Golf Course closed for the year?

Director Carlson didn't have an exact date, but felt it closed around Thanksgiving. We had 52,000 rounds played this year. Last year we had 50,000 played.

Commissioner Huffman commented about the railings down by the Bridge Overlook. They were completed. It looks beautiful.

B. Update on the Mendota/Lebanon Regional Greenway

Director Carlson stated as you are aware we have identified a Regional Greenway in the Northwest area. Dakota County started working on a Master Plan process back in August for this. They will be holding a public open house on Tuesday, January 15th from 6-8 p.m. at Lebanon Hills Nature Center to get public feedback on the plan. The County put together an advisory group of people from the Cities that the greenway will affect. That involves the Cities of Eagan, Mendota Heights, and Inver Grove Heights. There are three Staff members from our City that are on that group. They are the City Planner, our Public Works Director, and himself. Right now they are in the planning stages and hope to finish the process by June 2013. When we know more we will bring more information to you so you can weigh in on the process.

C. Future of Our Parks Report – Park & Recreation System Plan

Director Carlson stated the subcommittee continues to meet. We met this evening to review a draft of the needs assessment. 470 people filled out the online survey. We held a neighborhood open house. We have met with some of our special interest groups. We attended neighborhood meetings to try to get people knowledgeable about the planning process. We had our graffiti boards out and available. We also attended the Inver Grove Heights Days Street Fair. We will be meeting with the full Commission in January and talk about what is being

said and what the information gathered is telling us so we can start a vision to go into the Future. We will be meeting with the City Council in late January. We have collected 40 names of people interested in being “park champions”. We will be meeting with them about what they want to be champions of, as well as the opportunities, challenges, park and recreation system threats, etc. Both Commissioners Hapka and Solberg were in attendance at the meeting we had this evening and may want to update you further.

Commissioner Solberg stated the dog park was one of the top six issues residents listed that they wanted.

Commissioner Hapka felt it was interesting to see what the residents were looking for. Trail connectivity and the dog park seemed to be big items.

Vice Chair Schueller asked which trails were cleared and useable right now?

Director Carlson stated the City Council has not adopted a trail and sidewalk plowing plan, so not all the trails will get to be plowed. The Highway 52 Trail is plowed. The trails at Oakwood and Southern Lakes should be plowed. He will provide a map for the Commission at the next meeting so you know what gets plowed.

Commissioner Hapka asked that if that information can be posted on the website?

Director Carlson responded they could.

Commissioner Huffman asked if they will do anything with the trails and the bridge overlook?

Director Carlson responded they do not plan to. The Mississippi River Regional Trail is the responsibility of the County to plow. They do not have to plow it; they can if they want to.

Commissioner Krech stated it was plowed over by him. It looks good.

Vice Chair Schueller asked if the Rich Valley parking lot is plowed by the City so they can use that for snowmobiling?

Director Carlson responded they do plow a portion of it. You can park there and hop onto the trail nearby to do so.

10. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hapka had no comment.

Commissioner Boehmer wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Huffman had no comment.

Commissioner Johnson had no comment.

Commissioner Solberg commented it is a great opportunity to get out into the parks and see what they have to offer.

Commissioner Krech wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He thanked everyone for serving here. He thanked Director Carlson as well.

Vice Chair Schueller stated we have a lot of events coming up for the Holidays. It is a good time for people to get out and get involved. With the outdoor rinks and sliding hills now is the perfect time to get out and about. There are indoor activities to get involved in as well. If you have any questions, feel free to call Director Carlson and his Staff. They do an outstanding job and would love to help out.

Commissioner Solberg asked if the Golf Course is open for those that like to get out and cross country ski?

Director Carlson responded the Golf Course is open for those that want to snowshoe or cross country ski. We do not maintain any trails, but people wanting to do their own trails are welcome to do so.

11. ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Huffman, seconded by Commissioner Solberg, to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Aye: 7

Nay: 0

Motion carried.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Discuss Renewal of Fairway Flyerz Discs, Inc. North Valley Disc Golf Operations Agreement

Meeting Date: February 13, 2013
 Item Type: Regular Agenda
 Contact: Tracy Petersen – 651.450.2588
 Prepared by: Tracy Petersen
 Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount included in current budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Budget amendment requested
<input type="checkbox"/>	FTE included in current complement
<input type="checkbox"/>	New FTE requested – N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Discuss Renewal of Fairway Flyerz Discs, Inc. North Valley Disc Golf Operations Agreement

SUMMARY

In 2011 and 2012, Fairway Flyerz Discs, Inc. operated a mobile sales unit at the North Valley Park disc golf course. Fairway Flyerz Discs, Inc. sold daily and annual passes, concessions, disc golf product and provided an on-course presence at the site seven (7) days a week. Highlights of the term agreement over the past two (2) years are listed below:

YEAR	# Users	Length of Season	Age Restrictions	City's Portion of Revenue Agreement	Fairway Flyerz/City Percentage Split of Sales
2011	6,224	April-end of September	Under 21 free	\$6,268	50%/50%
2012	4,838	May-mid September	14 & Under free; discount of \$2 on daily rate with valid high school ID	\$5,825	60%/40%

Fairway Flyerz, Inc. is proposing the following terms for 2013. This proposal is based on the usage and sales levels that occurred in 2011 and 2012.

- Length of season would remain from May-mid September.
- Same age restrictions as 2012 season.
- Fairway Flyerz Discs, Inc. /City Split of revenue would be 80%/20%.

Pros/Cons of the proposed new terms include:

Pros:

- Continued presence of Fairway Flyerz reduces vandalism, litter and unwanted behavior at the park.
- Continued presence at the park provides for an additional set of eyes and ears to identify maintenance issues.
- Generates some general fund money for Recreation Fund.
- Experience vendor provides ability to provide better disc golf experience through added course improvements, knowledge and education.

- Proposed revenue split of 80%/20% is comparable to revenue splits the Recreation Division has with other service contractors to provide recreation programs and services.
- Maintains disc golf course partnership the City has with South St. Paul's Kaposia disc golf course.

Cons:

- Loss of 50% of revenue earned if volume of users remains constant.
- Continue to provide opportunity for a limited number of players.
- Potential pressure from users to continue to make additional improvements to maintain higher standards of a pay-to-play course.

Staff is seeking direction from PRAC as to the proposed 2013 agreement terms from Fairway Flyerz Discs, Inc. to continue to operate a mobile sales unit at North Valley Park disc golf course.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Review 2013-14 VMCC Ice Rates

Meeting Date: February 13, 2013
Item Type: Regular Agenda
Contact: Eric Carlson 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

- Fiscal/FTE Impact:**
- None
 - Amount included in current budget
 - Budget amendment requested
 - FTE included in current complement
 - New FTE requested – N/A
 - Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Consider 2013-14 Ice Rates for the VMCC.

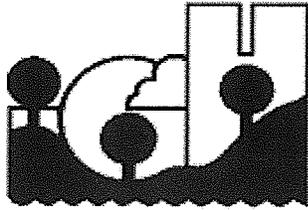
SUMMARY

The Commission is asked to establish ice rates each year as outlined in Section 3.1.1 of the lease agreement between the City of Inver Grove Heights and Independent School District 199 for the Armory and for the Inver Gove Heights Veteran’s Memorial Community Center (VMCC). Doing so will allow the City to charge ISD 199 for ice Time used by the boys and girls high school hockey program and physical education classes outlined in the lease

The City and School District entered into a lease for the use of the VMCC in May of 1995. The lease requires the School District to pay the City a sum of \$100,000 annually for the construction of the VMCC over a 20-year period resulting in a contribution of \$2,000,000. Additionally, the lease outlines the City can charge the School District for ice time used by the District for athletics and physical education classes.

The lease also stipules that the Community Center Advisory Committee (CCAC) consisting of the City Administrator, Finance Director, Park and Recreation Director, School District Business Manager, and Activities Director meet to discuss operational issues at the AMCC. The CCAC is charged with establishing the market rate ice time at the VMCC by using a prescribed list of area arenas to establish an “average: ice rate.

The proposed ice rate for 2013-14 is to remain the same as it was in 2012-13 at \$200 per hour.



City of Inver Grove Heights Veteran's Memorial Community Center

2013-2014 Ice Rate Study

Arena	2012-2013 Prime	2012-2013 Non- Prime	2013-2014 Prime Proposed	2013-2014 Non- Prime Proposed
Cottage Grove	\$200	\$130	\$205	\$135
Eagan	\$195	\$130	\$200	\$135
Lakeville	\$215	n/a	\$215	n/a
Rosemount	\$185	\$125	\$185	\$125
South St Paul	\$195	\$155		
West St Paul	\$190	n/a	\$193	n/a
Edina	\$200	\$150	\$205	\$165
Burnsville	\$175	n/a	\$185	n/a
Minnetonka	\$190	n/a	\$190	n/a
Parade (Minneapolis)	\$175	\$140	\$180	\$150
Average			\$195	\$142
Maximum Market Rate 5% greater than average			\$205	\$149
Current VMCC Rate	\$200	\$130		
Proposed VMCC Rate			\$200	\$135

Notes:

- Lease allows rate to be below market, at market, but no more than 5% above market.
- Provides users of 675 or more hours of ice between October 1st and March 10th a \$10 per hour discount.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Department Happenings

Meeting Date: February 13, 2013
Item Type: Administrative Presentations
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount included in current budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Budget amendment requested
<input type="checkbox"/>	FTE included in current complement
<input type="checkbox"/>	New FTE requested – N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Item is for informational purposes and Commissioners are encouraged to ask appropriate questions.

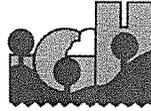
SUMMARY

Items included:

- Department Happenings Report
- Miscellaneous



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Parks

Tree Trimming

Parks crew continues to trim trees throughout the winter dormant season. It is an opportune time to trim oaks to minimize spread of oak wilt disease and get a better view of branching pattern in crown of trees.

Gun Club Lake Aerator

The lake aerator in Gun Club Lake at Lions Park was installed on January 29, 2013. Parks crew installs this DNR provided aerator every year to prevent DNR stocked fish from dying in lake due to lack of oxygen. The DNR monitors the oxygen level of lake water and notifies Parks when aerator should be installed. This fish stocking program provides angling opportunities for IGH residents at fishing pier installed a few years back at Lions Park. Park crew has installed required warning signs around lake and placed warning notice in paper notifying public of aerator operation in lake.

Picnic Tables Repair and Trash Barrel Painting

Parks staff has been going through the annual task of repairing picnic tables and painting trash barrels at Rich Valley maintenance building as time allows. Picnic table lumber is replaced and painted and 55 gallon steel trash barrels are cleaned and painted every winter. Black plastic barrels will be used in some parks this summer to see how they hold up. Plastic barrels may be easier to dump into dumpster and safer for the crew to handle. It is anticipated they would also be easier on the lift-gate truck used to haul trash barrels.

Natural Resource Management Plan at RISB

Friends of the Mississippi River has completed the Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) for the 17.28 acres surrounding the Rock Island Swing Bridge. This plan provides a blueprint for restoring this area to its native vegetative condition and lays the necessary groundwork required for the city to be eligible for grant dollars to implement plan. Parks plans on dedicating approximately two weeks of contracted STS crew time to clearing buckthorn and other non-native invasive species from the site this spring. Parks is working with Friends of Mississippi restoration ecologists to implement NRMP. A cost of \$100,000 is estimated to implement the NRMP over a four year period. Cost sharing and grant dollars are being explored with FMR to share in this restoration expense.

LED Lighting Plan for Parks

Parks is working with LightingHouseUSA, Inc. to develop a LED lighting replacement plan for Park system lighting. LED-Light Emitting Diode, is a semiconductor that emits visible light when electrical current flows through it.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



LED lighting technology replaces traditional luminaires (such as incandescent, halogen, mercury vapor, metal halide, high pressure sodium and fluorescent) with solid state lighting products and can provide up to 90% energy savings. LED conversion is eligible for several federal grants and rebates from electrical providers such as Xcel Energy and Dakota Electric. Investment in LED lighting has a very good return on investment and usually pays for itself in a few years. Parks is working with vendor to provide a plan for converting all the park system lighting to LED. This is a plan that can be implemented over time or all at one time depending on the funding secured and ROI (return on investment.) Stay tuned as plan develops.

Inver Wood Golf Course

Winter Tasks

Golf Course staff is currently busy with pre-season tasks such as inventory ordering, equipment replacement, and administrative functions. Maintenance procedures currently underway include reel sharpening, preventative maintenance to equipment, overhaul of selected equipment, and refurbishment of on-course fixtures.

2013 Staffing

The hiring process for the 2013 season begins this month for the required 50 temporary employees required for seasonal operations. The process begins with letters and forms sent to all past seasonal employees in good standing. Once these forms are returned in early March, we are able to determine the number of new hires needed for the upcoming season. This year we are projecting the need for between 7 to 9 seasonal employees to fill vacant positions. Open positions will be filled by applicants throughout the month of March.

Golf Shop Opening

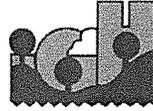
Inver Wood's Golf Shop will re-open on Monday, March 18th. Renewals and sales of patron cards, program registration, and merchandise sales will be available during pre-season hours of 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

On-line registrations for 2013 are currently underway for all programs including group instruction, leagues, and events. Handicap and patron card purchases can also be made on-line at anytime.

The driving range and golf courses will open as soon as weather conditions permit.



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



Recreation

Soccer Carnival

Come learn soccer in a fun and entertaining carnival-like atmosphere! The Recreation Department in partnership with Inver Grove Heights Heat Soccer is hosting this event on Saturday, March 9 from 10:30 a.m.-noon to celebrate the game of soccer in this community. The event is free to the public.

Catch a Glimpse of Summer

The Department will be hosting a Summer Registration Kickoff event on Saturday, March 9 from 9-11am to highlight our summer program offerings. There will be a special discount when you register for programs on that day. The event is free to the public.

Youth Lacrosse Clinic

This clinic is a great way to learn the game of lacrosse. This event is offered in cooperation with the Simley High School Varsity Lacrosse Team. Event is Saturday, March 9 from 8:30-10a.m. For more information, visit www.funatthegrove.com

National Trails Day Event to Return

The Department will host its 2nd Annual Trails Day event this year on June 1. More information about this year's trail location will be available in our summer brochure due out in March and on the City's website.

Skyview Park Field Update

Our parks maintenance staff has done a great job in building and preparing the fields for use. Staff anticipated that the fields may be ready for play in the fall of 2013. Early this summer, maintenance staff will evaluate and make a determination if the fields will be suitable for use in the fall. We have discussed a possible delay of use until 2014 with both IGH Heat Soccer and Simley Youth Tackle Football should we determine that use in the fall could damage the turf.

Youth T-ball/Baseball/Softball Registration

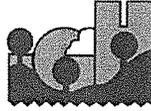
Registration is underway for youth t-ball (Ages 4-5), boys baseball (Grades K-5), Girls Softball Ages 4-9 and Grades 4-12. League registration deadlines and start dates vary so please visit our website for more information.

Older Adult Focus Groups

The recreation division in conjunction with the Community Education's Senior Center staff will be holding two focus groups in February to talk to those



Parks & Recreation Department Department Happenings



individuals age 55 and over about the recently completed Community Assessment of adults ages 55 and older in Inver Grove Heights. The focus groups are intended to get feedback on the survey and get ideas on programs, events, services and facilities for this age demographic. The dates of the focus groups are Feb. 22 & Feb. 26 at 10am at the Community Center.

Veterans Memorial Community Center

VMCC Hosts Sectional Swim Meet

The Grove will be hosting the Sectional Boys Swim meet here on February 21 & 23. This is a large event that allows the City to showcase our facility and pool to the public.

New Indoor Turf Arrives!

Our west rink will be receiving new turf this year and will be open for rental beginning March 8. The turf will remain in until mid October. This will be our fourth season with the turf and we continue to see very strong use in March and April prior to the spring sports teams getting outside. Our parks and recreation programs use the turf in the summer. In 2012 we saw an increase with paid usage in the fall months as well. In addition, staff was also able to sell some of the old turf to the Inver Grove Heights Softball Federation for their use.

Summer Kids R.O.C.K. Program Registration Opens

Our popular summer childcare program will run from June 10-August 23 this year. We offer 3-5 day/week options for parents and a unique variety of amenities for participants to use at the Community Center. Registration information will be available online beginning February 6.

Spring Fitness Preview Week

Try one of our drop-in fitness classes for free during the week of March 2-8. Register at the Community Center or go online to www.funathegrove.com

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Future of Our Parks Report

Meeting Date: February 13, 2013
Item Type: Administrative Presentations
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None
 Amount included in current budget
 Budget amendment requested
 FTE included in current complement
 New FTE requested – N/A
 Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

The subcommittee will provide the full Commission with monthly updates regarding efforts to update our Comprehensive Park Plan and Development Guide.

SUMMARY

The Commission set up a sub-committee consisting of Chair Al Eiden, Commissioners Mary Hapka and Chris Solberg along with Park Superintendent Mark Borgwardt, Recreation Superintendent Tracy Petersen, and myself.

We will provide the entire commission with an update each month.

Feel free to ask appropriate questions regarding the sub-committees efforts.

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION

Commission Comments

Meeting Date: February 13, 2013
Item Type: Commission Presentations
Contact: Eric Carlson – 651.450.2587
Prepared by: Eric Carlson
Reviewed by: Eric Carlson – Parks & Recreation

Fiscal/FTE Impact:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount included in current budget
<input type="checkbox"/>	Budget amendment requested
<input type="checkbox"/>	FTE included in current complement
<input type="checkbox"/>	New FTE requested – N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

No action required. Commissioners are encouraged to make appropriate comments.

SUMMARY

None.