

MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION MEETING OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CHAMPLIN IN THE COUNTY OF HENNEPIN AND IN THE
STATE OF MINNESOTA THEREOF:

WORK SESSION MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2025
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CALL TO ORDER

The Champlin Parks and Recreation Commission met in a Regular Meeting and was called to order by Chair Gary Flandrick at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Gary Flandrick, Commissioners Mary Broughton, Ken Hirsch Jr., Tim Mueller, and Rob Musto.

Absent: Commissioner Mike Eckert, Mike Maher, and Ronald Powell.

Also present: Park & Rec Director Dan Glynn.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Parks & Recreation
Commission Work Plan

Mr. Glynn reviewed the draft work plan is a schedule of activities for the Commission. This is a working document and things may be added or pushed to other months as we go through the year.

Mr. Glynn presented the Parks and Recreation Commission Annual Planning Calendar:

January 7, 2025

- Elect Chair & Vice Chair
- Work Session to develop work plan for 2025
- Ice Forum Proposal
- 2025 Farmers Market Location

February 4, 2025

- Review 2024 annual report (may need to be pushed back based on budget reconciliation timeline)
- Park System Master Plan Consultant Interviews
- Contractor Selection for Portable Toilets

March 4, 2025

- Preview Spring/Summer Recreation Programs
- Park System Master Plan Kickoff Meeting

April 8, 2025

- 2025 Trail Project Update

May 6, 2025

- Park Tour – Woodlawn Park & Area Trails
 - Playground Replacement
 - 2026 Trail Replacement Project Area
- Father Hennepin Festival Preview

June 6, 2025

- 2026-2035 CIP Presentation

July 1, 2025

- National Park & Recreation Month
- Father Hennepin Festival Recap

August 5, 2025

- Preview Fall Recreation Programs
- Park System Master Plan Update

September 2, 2025

- Ice Forum Tour & Season To-Date Review

October 7, 2025

- Tour of Park System – Trail Replacement Project Areas

November 4, 2025

- Preview Winter Recreation Programs
- Review Park & Recreation Fee Schedule

December 2, 2025

- Park System Master Plan Draft Plan Review
- Review Goals/Work Plans from the year

The City closed on the Brown property on January 6, 2025 (\$852,000). There was a discussion about the Park System Master Plan Consultant to be hired. The consensus of the Commission was to go ahead with the 2025 Work Plan.

Farmers Market Location

Mr. Glynn reviewed the Champlin Farmers Market was originally located in the parking lot at the Champlin Ice Forum and operated there for over a decade. In 2023 it moved to the Mississippi Crossings to provide more exposure for the area. Vendors and customers were surveyed at the end of the season. Feedback received was that the Mississippi Crossings is difficult to access due to traffic congestion. We also needed to cancel a week this past season due to Premier Pontoon rental of the entire Mississippi Crossings area.

Upside:

- Less disruption of the schedule due to other events happening at the Mississippi Crossings. Premier Pontoon will be back in 2025.
- We received feedback that some customers did not come due to location. Staff believes attendance will be higher if it is moved back to the Ice Forum.
- Jensen's Market sells many of the same items as vendors for the market. Moving the market will provide less competition for them.

Downside:

- The Ice Forum's parking lot is scheduled to be replaced in 2026. It is unknown what the construction schedule will be at this time, but there's potential for disruption.
- There will be less exposure for the Mississippi Crossings area.

Staff recommends moving the Farmer's Market to the Ice Forum for the 2025 season. A summary of the surveys were provided for Commission consideration.

Attendance was thought to be slightly down from the previous year. The space at both locations is comparable. The consensus of the Commission was to move the Farmers Market back to the Ice Forum for 2025.

The Base Sports Performance/Minnesota Lakers Proposal for Ice Rental at the Ice Forum

Mr. Glynn reviewed the City received a proposal from The Base Sports Performance/Minnesota Lakers Hockey to purchase a substantial amount of ice time. The Base Sports Performance/Minnesota Lakers Hockey is owned by Dave Brown who is a Champlin resident and head coach for Rogers High School. They have been purchasing ice time from the City for over ten years and during that time have been purchasing additional ice time as the business grew. They have a history of paying invoices on time, respecting the facility, and providing quality programming for residents.

The Ice Forum typically operates that previous users of ice in good standing will have the opportunity to purchase the same hours as the previous year. However, the proposal received is asking for 35 hours of ice time that has been used by Kern Hockey in the past. Dave Brown has told staff that he will need to explore other options if he cannot get the hours his business needs.

The largest user of hours during the non-hockey season of mid-March to August has been The Base Sports Performance/Minnesota Lakers Hockey. In 2024 they purchased 404 hours. Kern Hockey was

the second largest user and purchased 196 hours in 2024. When staff told Kern Hockey about the proposal, they responded that they would like to purchase additional hours as well. Staff then asked them to submit a proposal which has not yet been received.

Proposal Details:

- 590 hours of ice time between mid-March through the end of August
 - 190 hours in March, April and May
 - 196 hours in June and July
 - 176 hours in late July and August
 - Includes 63 hours of ice time that went unsold in 2024
 - \$10/hour off the approved fee schedule rate of \$185/hour
 - 1 and 3 year options

Upside:

- The proposal is for 590 hours with projected revenue of \$103,250
- The proposal would utilize 63 previously unsold hours
- The additional programming could potentially benefit Champlin hockey players
- Three year contract protects City as Rogers second sheet of ice opens
- If Kern Hockey purchases the unaffected hours, then there is a potential to sell \$25,000+ more in ice time in 2025

Downside:

- There is risk with selling this much ice time to a sole business. If the Base Sports Performance/Minnesota Lakers Hockey went out of business or moved to a different ice arena, it could potentially take a few years to fill the ice time they have requested. However, this would also be the case if they move to another rink, and we need to find other users for the 404 hours they used in 2024
- Goes against typical procedure for ice time allocation and affects another user (35 hours of ice time previously used)
- If Kern Hockey move to a different arena, we would need to sell 10 additional hours to have same ice time utilization as 2024 with both Kern Hockey and The Base Sports Performance/Minnesota Lakers Hockey


The proposal is to purchase 590 hours of ice time in 2025 resulting in \$103,250 in revenue. The two owners will meet to try to resolve some scheduling issues. Dave Brown would have first right to the ice. No other rental groups are affected.

Staff recommends accepting the proposal as presented and taking the three year option. The consensus of the Commission was to accept the proposal.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Musto, seconded by Commissioner Mueller, to adjourn the meeting. Voting in favor: Chair Gary Flandrick, Commissioners Mary Broughton, Ken Hirsch Jr., Tim Mueller, and Rob Musto. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.


Gary Flandrick, Parks and Recreation Chairperson

ATTEST:


Dan Glynn, Parks and Recreation Director