



**City of Newport
Park Board Meeting
January 22, 2015**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Supt. Hanson - I'd like to start by introducing Matt Yokiell, the new Asst. Public Works Supt. and your Executive Director.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members present – Tom Aguilar-Downing; Marge Meconis; Emily White; Heidi Tweeten;

Board Members absent – Anita Perkins;

Also present –Matt Yokiell, Executive Director; Bruce Hanson, Public Works Superintendent

3. WELCOME NEW MEMBER HEIDI TWEETEN

Heidi Tweeten - I'm very happy to be here. I live near Pioneer Park, have been here since 2009, and am a mother of two. I'm happy to serve the City.

4. NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON FOR 2015

Tom Aguilar-Downing - I would like to step down as Chairperson after serving for the last two years.

Marge Meconis - I would like to nominate Emily White for Chairperson.

Heidi Tweeten - I'll second.

Motion by Meconis, seconded by Tweeten to appoint Emily White as Chairperson for 2015. With 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent the motion carried.

Emily White - I'll nominate Marge Meconis as Vice-Chairperson.

Heidi Tweeten - I'll second

Motion by White, seconded by Tweeten to appoint Marge Meconis as Vice-Chairperson for 2014. With 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MINUTES

A. Park Board Minutes of October 23, 2014 Regular Meeting

Tom Aguilar-Downing - I don't remember if the Mayor was there or not.

Marge Meconis - I don't think he was.

Emily White - I don't think he was either.

Motion by White, seconded by Meconis, to approve the Park Board Minutes of October 23, 2014 as presented. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

6. REVIEW GOALS

A. Discuss 2015 Goals

Tom Aguilar-Downing - Do we want to discuss these tonight or finalize them in February with the new Chairperson?

Emily White - I don't see anything that needs to be discussed tonight besides the Winter Family Fun Night, which is on the agenda. I do have a question, it says that Veterans' Memorial is completed, would we take that off?

Tom Aguilar-Downing - Yes.

Emily White - Have the warming houses been done?

Supt. Hanson - Yes.

Emily White - Ok, so we can take that off.

Tom Aguilar-Downing - Ok, let's table that until the next meeting.

7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

8. BOARD REPORTS

A. Tom Aguilar-Downing

1. Discussion Regarding Winter Family Fun Night

The Park Board discussed this item as outlined in the attached worksheet. The Winter Family Fun Night is scheduled for Saturday, February 7 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Lions Park. There will be several events such as skating, games, music, and free refreshments.

2. Discussion Regarding Photo Contest

Tom Aguilar-Downing - We had a photo contest last year, one for each season with three different categories. I would like to thank the judges that were involved, Brian North, Jamie Smith, Kari Layland, myself, and Bes Coy during the first season. We had each of the winning photos displayed at various venues. I'd like to thank Mary North with North Pole Restaurant, Fay Coffin with Fay's Newport Style Salon, Rich Romano with Newport Elementary, Jamie Smith with the Library and here at City Hall. There were six photos for residents to vote on for the Overall Best Photo of the Year. They were:

- Adult, Black and White - Jen Knutson, Butterfly and Bumble Bee
- Adult, Nature - Jen Knutson, Red Admiral of the Cone Flowers (top juried photo overall)
- Adult, People or Animal - Jen Knutson, Dance of the Bumble Bee
- Youth, Black and White - Brooke Kolodziej, Field of Dreams
- Youth, Nature - Brooke Kolodziej, Hockey Fun at Loveland
- Youth, People or Animal - Bethany Habbena, Another Bridge to Cross

The winner of the Overall Best Photo was Brook Kolodziej with her hockey photo. She'll get a \$50 check. I'd like to discuss with the Board if we would like to do this again for 2015. During 2014, we had 77 different photos

entered by 10 participants. The number of ballots that were cast was 200. We had a lot of community involvement at that point. I'd like to thank North Pole, they would go around to people at the booths asking them to vote. I'd like to suggest having two awards this year. One for the best juried photo and another for the people's choice. What do you think?

Marge Meconis - I think it's good. It could end up being the same winner.

Heidi Tweeten - It's good publicity for the parks.

Marge Meconis - And I think Brooke took that picture with a cell phone so you don't need fancy equipment.

Tom Aguilar-Downing - I'll present that to the Council. In regards to categories, do we need to stay with the current categories?

Emily White - I like the three. Did we have many black and white entries?

Tom Aguilar-Downing - I don't know. I would keep the black and white category. There wasn't a lot of distinction between animals and people and nature. We could change it to people or human activity. Those will be different than your nature shots.

Marge Meconis - Why not just do black and white and color? That way you don't need to categorize it beyond that.

Heidi Tweeten - It'll be interesting to see if that changes the submissions.

Tom Aguilar-Downing - Ok, it seems like there's a consensus to do that.

Marge Meconis - There will still be youth and adult divisions?

Tom Aguilar-Downing - Yes. One last thing, I will continue to organize it but I wanted to take myself off as the judge. Would someone like to volunteer?

Marge Meconis - I can do that.

B. Marge Meconis -

Marge Meconis - Buckthorn day was great. We had a huge turnout. I have a lot of good before and after pictures. There were a lot of kids from East Ridge, the Science Club, I think it was the biggest one we've had in terms of participants. Speaking for Laura, she did put a little blurb in a DNR press release. She did call it the third annual and I think that was because the schools were a bit more organized the last three years.

Emily White - Did you have group leaders?

Marge Meconis - Yes.

Executive Director Yokiel - How many showed up?

Marge Meconis - Whoever had the sign-up list took it away. I think 150 looking at the photograph.

Tom Aguilar-Downing - I think it was 180.

Heidi Tweeten - Do you visit the same areas each year?

Marge Meconis - Not necessarily. We've been focusing on the Bailey School Forest because we thought we could get student volunteers with it being a school forest. We have been talking about branching out into other areas. The City has asked us to look at other areas.

Heidi Tweeten - It'd be interesting to see how, if it is in the same area, it affects it over time.

Marge Meconis - It comes back quickly.

Emily White - Bailey School Forest is so large that we could do it every year and never be done.

Tom Aguilar-Downing - We have gone back a couple times to get them when they're smaller. You can see the difference when you go for the big ones. Let's talk about that when we look at our 2015 goals. Susan has done a survey of invasive species in Bailey and asked to be on our February agenda.

C. Anita Perkins - Nothing to report.

D. Emily White - Nothing to report.

E. Heidi Tweeten - Nothing to report.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Recognition of Laura Duffey for her Time on the Park Board

Supt. Hanson - I'd like to thank Laura Duffey for the three years of service that she provided on the Park Board. She continues to serve on the Bailey School Forest Committee as well. We'd just like to thank her for all of her efforts, we really appreciate it.

Tom Aguilar-Downing - I'd like to thank Laura as well. She's done a great job and has brought a lot of energy.

Executive Director Yokiell - Does this time work well for everyone to meet? Personally, earlier would work better for me.

Tom Aguilar-Downing - I have a hard time getting here any earlier.

Heidi Tweeten - I'm flexible.

Marge Meconis - I think it's difficult for people to get here any earlier if they're working full-time.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by White, seconded by Meconis, to adjourn the Park Board Meeting at 7:46 P.M. With 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.

Signed: _____
Tom Aguilar-Downing, Chairperson

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Eisenbeisz
Executive Analyst

Newport Park Board Annual Winter Family Fun Night Planning Sheet

Event Date: Saturday, February 07, 2015

Lead Time (days)	Date	Item	Assignee	Done	Notes
40	Monday, December 29, 2014	Cosponsorship letters out NOTM	Tom		
30	Thursday, January 08, 2015	Brochure updated or redesigned	Tom	1/21/2015	
30	Thursday, January 08, 2015	Obtain permission to use Fire House	Matt		
17	Wednesday, January 21, 2015	Distribute posters to churches Methodist Lutheran Oakwood Red Rock Manor	Tom Emily Tom Tom		1596 Eleventh Ave., Newport, MN 55055 900 15th St., Newport, MN 55055 office@oakwoodministries.org Lee Bilderback, Apt. 231, Red Rock Manor, 1421 10th Ave., Newport, MN 55055
17	Wednesday, January 21, 2015	PSA to SWC Bulletin PSA to St. Paul Pioneer Press PSA to Mpls Strib PSA to Sen. Sieben for Capital Update Newsletter	Tom Tom Tom Tom	1/21/2015 1/21/2015 1/21/2015 1/21/2015	pressrelease@swcbulletin.com events@pioneerpress.com http://www.startribune.com/pressrelease/ katies@senate.mn Submitted through City Hall Submitted through City Hall Submitted through City Hall Submitted through City Hall
14	Saturday, January 24, 2015	PSA to SWCTC - Channel 18	Tom	1/21/2015	Brian@SWCTC.org Submitted through City Hall; Brian Schmidt 651-458-9241 ext 6
14	Saturday, January 24, 2015	Poster on Newport Drug Bulletin Board	Tom		
14	Saturday, January 24, 2015	Posters at both warming huts.	Tom		
14	Saturday, January 24, 2015	Posters at other outdoor parks	Tom		
7	Saturday, January 31, 2015	Create Playlist			
7	Saturday, January 31, 2015	Arrange Rope for Tug of War	Matt		
6	Sunday, February 01, 2015	Plow bowling lanes	Matt		
5	Monday, February 02, 2015	Get half sheet poster .JPG to Newport Elementary Teacher	Tom		
5	Monday, February 02, 2015	Paint Tug of War line	Matt		
3	Wednesday, February 04, 2015	Pick up Speaker from City Hall, SWCTC Booth	Tom		
3	Wednesday, February 04, 2015	Cocoa purchase	Emily		
3	Wednesday, February 04, 2015	Cookies Purchase	Anita		
2	Thursday, February 05, 2015	Distribute 1/2 page Flyer to Newport Elem Students	Anita		
1	Friday, February 06, 2015	Deliver Cookie & Cocoa Table	Matt		
1	Friday, February 06, 2015	String extension cord for Speaker.	Matt		
1	Friday, February 06, 2015	Deliver Fire Ring	Matt		
1	Friday, February 06, 2015	Deliver Traffic Cones for Speed Skating	Matt		
1	Friday, February 06, 2015	Deliver Bowling Pins	Matt		
1	Friday, February 06, 2015	Deliver Bowling Basketballs	Matt		
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Cocoa & Cookie preparation and serving	NOTM		
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Deliver Fire Wood & Light			

Lead Time (days)	Date	Item	Assignee	Done	Notes
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Event Master of Ceremonies	Tom		
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Music			
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Pump, Pump, Pull Away			
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Ice Bowling			
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Tug of War on Ice			
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Speed Skating			
0	Saturday, February 07, 2015	Other non-ice game?			



Newport's 2015 Winter Family Fun Night

Saturday, February 07

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Lions Park Skating Rink

20th St. and 2nd Ave., Newport, MN 55055

Enjoy an evening of skating, fun winter games,
music and free refreshments.

No skates? No problem!

Activities for skaters and non-skaters.

**Sponsored by the Newport Park Board
and Newport On The Move**

