



**New Brighton Parks, Recreation, and Environmental Commission
Agenda
Upper Level | Conference Room
New Brighton City Hall 803 Old Hwy 8 NW, New Brighton , MN
6:30 PM October 1, 2025**

Members of the Parks, Recreation, and Environmental Commission will attend the meeting in person unless eligible to attend remotely per MN Stat. 13D.02.

To participate in this meeting, members of the public may:

- **Attend the meeting in person.**
- **Watch the meeting electronically.** Tune into CTV Channel 8023 (CenturyLink) or Channel 16 (Comcast). To observe the meeting as a livestream or a webcast, visit NBMN.info/View-A-Meeting

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Chair Julia O'Rourke

Commissioner Sebastian Fallas

Vice-Chair Abe McEathron

Commissioner Kristin Hicks

Commissioner Pauline Alfors

Commissioner Becky Slabiak

Commissioner Gary Bank

Commissioner Laura Sokol-Kraft

III. Approval of Agenda

IV. Approval of Past Minutes

A. August 6, 2025

V. Business Items

A. Community Assets and Development - Yearly Update

VI. Informational Items

A. Department Updates

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjournment



MINUTES
Parks, Recreation and Environmental Commission
August 6, 2025 City Hall
6:30 p.m.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: Commissioners Pauline Alfors, Gary Bank, Sebastian Fallas, Kristin Hicks, Abe McEathron, and Laura Sokol-Kraft.

Members Absent: Commissioners Julia O'Rourke and Becky Slabiak.

Also Present: Director Jennifer Fink and City Council Liaison Graeme Allen.

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Bank, seconded by Hicks to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Alfors, seconded by Bank to approve the June 4, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

V. Business Items

A. Hansen Park Disc Golf

Director Fink stated the Commission asked for a presentation on the history of the Hansen Park Disc Golf Course and current programming. Dan Ginter is an avid user and part of the Hansen Park Disc Golf group. He was in attendance to present and answer questions. She commented on a video that was recently created by Nine North about a tournament that was held at the Hansen Park Disc Golf Tournament - World Masters. She noted the disc golf group was one of the largest volunteer contributors to the New Brighton Park System.

Dan Ginter introduced himself to the PREC Commission and discussed the state of disc golf in New Brighton. He explained he was a tournament official with the PDGA, which means he can officiate tournaments and oversee certain parts of disc golf tournaments. He reported he was part of the Minnesota Frisbee Association and was formerly the secretary. He indicated he was the league director of the River Front Disc Club which is located in Fridley. He discussed how disc golf was organized at a national level and commented on how this

filters down to local associations and events. He reported the PDGA had 100,000 members but has grown exponentially since the pandemic and was now up to 300,000 members. He provided an overview of the Master Worlds Championships disc golf tournament that was held in New Brighton noting this event brought more than 1,000 players from 21 different countries to participate in a tournament in Hansen Park. He provided further information regarding Minnesota's Frisbee Association, noting this group just celebrated its 50-year anniversary. Notable members from the Minnesota Frisbee Association were discussed with the Commission. He ended his presentation by discussing how unique the 18-hole disc golf course was within Hansen Park.

Discussion included:

- Staff described the volunteer work the frisbee golf group does in Hansen Park.
- It was noted the frisbee golf holds its league at Hansen Park on Wednesday nights.
- Mr. Ginter commented on how disc golf was for people of all ages and stages of life.
- The Commission asked if there were thoughts of upgrading or modernizing the existing disc golf course. Staff noted there were no plans at this time stating the unique baskets were a draw for the community.
- The Commission suggested holding a disc golf camp for children.
- Information was provided on how to join the disc golf club.
- Disc golf etiquette was further discussed.
- The Commission suggested signs be created for when tournaments are in progress.
- The Commission thanked Mr. Ginter for his presentation.

VI. Informational Items

A. Construction Updates

Director Fink provided the Commission with a construction update. She shared photos of the work that had been completed at Hansen West. She reported the goal was to have the pathways through this park open by the beginning of September.

VII. Announcements

Director Fink reported July was National Parks and Recreation Month. She noted she hosted a lunch for her staff members. She noted the City received two MRPA Awards of Excellence, the first was for Park Discovery Days and the second was for the park design for Totem Pole Park. She thanked the PREC members who were able to attend the Splash Bash, noting this event was very well attended by the community. She shared a video from Nine North that featured the new splash pad in Lions Park. She indicated the splash pad was open 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily. She reported National Night Out was held on Tuesday, August 5. The final concert in the park will be held on Thursday, August 14 at Veterans Park, which will also serve as an all-staff reunion. She stated golf was going great at the Brightwood Golf Course. She noted the City Council has been discussing the future for the Brightwood Golf Course Club House along with a new City Hall Campus on Block B within the New Brighton Exchange.

Council Liaison Allen commented on how the City Council was considering a number of options for City Hall and the Community Center. He reported the Council would be holding public engagement meetings in order to hear what amenities should be included in the future space.

Director Fink provided the Commission with potential cost estimates for a new Community Center, while also discussing what it would cost to renovate the existing Community Center.

Council Liaison Allen explained the Council would be evaluating the cost/benefit of renovating versus building new.

Director Fink reported fall registration would be opening soon.

Council Liaison encouraged the PREC Commission to participate in Stockyard Days this weekend. He thanked the Lions for all of their efforts to put on this event.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by McEathron, seconded by Bank to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Fink". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Fink
Director of Parks and Recreation



Agenda Section:	Business Items
Report Date:	09/25/2025
Meeting Date:	October 1, 2025

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Community Assets and Development - Yearly Update

Action Requested:	
Public Hearing	Motion
Discussion	Informational: X
Form of Action:	
Resolution	Ordinance
Contract/Agreement	N/A or Other: X
Votes Needed:	
3 Votes	4 Votes
5 Votes	N/A: X

Summary Statement:	Each year the commission creates a work plan. One of the items that is on that list is a yearly update, hearing from the Community Assets and Development department (DCAD) about upcoming initiatives and projects.
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Recommendations:	Recieve information from Director Schlichting.
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Applicable Deadlines:	N/A
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Community Impact:	The DCAD department has infrastructure projects through out the City, and the often intersect with the Parks and Recreation Department.
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Legislative History:	
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Strategic Priority:	Financial Sustainability	Staff Capabilities
	Economic Development	Community Engagement & Belonging
	City Assets: X	N/A

Fiscal Impact:	Financial Impact: Is there a financial consideration?		No: X	Yes \$
	Financing Sources:	Budgeted	Budget Modification	
	New Revenue	Use of Reserves	Other	

Attachments:	
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