

Maple Grove Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2015

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order by CAC Member Bob Joiner at 7:01 p.m.		
Members Present	John Beacham Robert Joiner Joe Piket	Leslie Bender Steven Maas Kevin Rebman	Lorraine Gresser Joan Masberg Don Skoglund
Members Absent	Stephen Gill, Harry Kennedy, Tim Klevar		
Others Present	Councilmember Phil Leith, CAC City Staff Liaison Mike Opatz, Mark Saari, Recreation Superintendent and Chris Morrow, Temporary Program Specialist of the Parks and Recreation Department; and two representatives from the Maple Grove Lacrosse Association: Mike Urquhart and Hugh Wells.		
Minutes	The minutes for the May 13, 2015 meeting were approved. CAC members were encouraged to review the June 10, 2015 meeting summary.		
Area Reports	One written area report was submitted by Member Rebman regarding illegal parking on Fernbrook Lane during youth sports events. Chair Joiner mentioned that he has been in contact with the City regarding homes in his neighborhood that are in need of grass mowing and pot holes along 82 nd Place North.		
Presentation by Maple Grove Lacrosse Association	<p>Mike Urquhart and Hugh Wells were in attendance as representatives of the Maple Grove Lacrosse Association (MGLAX). A handout was provided that include a variety of information about their organization to supplement their powerpoint presentation.</p> <p>Mr. Urquhart stated that CAC gave them specific topics to discuss during the presentation. He continued by showing the powerpoint presentation and gave information regarding each topic.</p> <p><u>Developing quality opportunities for all children</u></p> <p>MGLAX has about 350 youth ages 5-18 participating in their program. They offer programs throughout the year. Last year, MGLAX started a four on four league for Kindergarten through 4th grade. This program is continuing this year.</p> <p>The organization offers in-house and traveling options for U9-U15. Teams at each level have the same amount of practices, tournaments, and games.</p>		

Providing skill development opportunities for athletes of all ages

Mr. Urquhart stated that Lacrosse is a sport where the general starting age is 11 years old. The association strives to have everyone play and have the same experience regardless of ability.

The coaching staff includes at least one person who played Lacrosse at either the high school or college level. The high school coaching staff directly coaches youth players and provided training sessions and coaching handbooks.

Ensuring equality in access to facilities for practice and competition for athletes of all abilities

Mr. Urquhart said that all teams are scheduled for same amount of practices within a given level regardless if they are an A or B team. Teams play in all 4 seasons of the year and the games are with the surrounding communities.

Field space is the largest issue at this time. A majority of the participants live in the western part of Maple Grove while the fields allocated to MGLAX are geographically located in the eastern part of Maple Grove.

The MGLAX continues to grow. The younger teams are becoming more populated. Lacrosse competes with baseball for participants since both sports are in the same season.

Procedures for impartial judging for team placement

Mr. Urquhart continued by stating that the evaluations are only done at the high school, U15 and U13 levels. The try outs are done by the same 4 gentlemen. The process includes scoring in the following areas:

- Individual skills
- Field vision
- Effort
- Game awareness

The players move up and down in consecutive evaluations. MGLAX feels confident that they evaluate the participants fairly, objectively, and accurately.

Background checks for coaches, assistant coaches, and other staff

NCSI (National Center for Safety Initiatives) gold standard background checks are done for all coaches. NCSI is recommended by the National Council of Youth Sports.

Implementing a code of conduct for parents, players, and coaches

Mr. Urquhart said MGLAX has a code of conduct in place. All

participants have to register with US Lacrosse which also has a code of conduct.

Lacrosse has what is called Chill Managers. This is a parent assigned to keep other parents from getting out of hand during the games. There are penalties if parent(s) become unruly.

Questions

Mr. Picket asked where do the officials for the games come from. Mr. Urquhart stated they come from a referee association. Players ages 15 and over can officiate also.

A question was asked regarding scholarships. Mr. Urquhart stated that there are scholarships available along with fundraising.

Does MGLAX offer seminars to learn about the game? The association does have a coach come to a game to answer any questions a parent may have regarding Lacrosse.

Mr. Joiner thanked Mr. Urquhart and Mr. Wells for coming.

Recruitment of New CAC Members

Mr. Joiner stated that at previous meetings there was dialogue regarding adding more members.

Mr. Opatz stated that City Administrator Al Madsen gave approval to add up to 4 new members. Mr. Opatz added that the recruitment of new members can be done by putting information in the Fall City Newsletter, Osseo/Maple Grove Press newspaper, City website and Facebook, and Cable 12 news and Northwest Cities Report.

Discussion took place regarding the applications and a deadline to receive applications by October 1, 2015 with the review of the applications by the CAC members to take place at the October 14th meeting.

Other Business / Updates

Mr. Skoglund discussed the festivities happening July 9-12 during Maple Grove Days.

Mr. Joiner stated that after the CAC hears from all sports associations, the CAC will put together a list of the issues and key points to discuss with Maple Grove Parks and Recreation staff.

Councilmember Leith stated that the interviews for the vacant City Council seat and Planning Commission seat will be conducted this month. The plan is to have the new City Council and Planning Commission members in place in early August.

Councilmember Leith also stated that the City Administrator position has

been posted through the end of July.

Further updates from Councilmember Leith are:

- Brewpub opening in September
- City changed ordinance to sell growlers on Sunday
- Old Alleygators site will be a day care center
- Maple Tavern: withdrew license and submitted new application

Adjournment

CAC member Bob Joiner adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Greninger
Minute Secretary