



City of
Maple Grove
Parks and Recreation

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chuck Stifter, Director of Parks and Recreation

FROM: Ben Jaszewski, Superintendent of Parks and Planning

DATE: December 9, 2021

SUBJECT: Parks and Planning Newsworthy

Parks maintenance staff continued the transition to winter operations and again took advantage of unseasonably warm temperatures throughout the fall. Staff continued annual trail trimming and tree pruning programs and trail sweeping operations. Each fall the stand-alone restroom buildings at Fernbrook Elementary and Weaver Lake Park ballfields are closed and winterized. December temperatures have been warmer again this year, but maintenance staff were able to utilize the few cold days to put water down on the outdoor ice rinks. Warmer temperatures next week will again force a holding period until temperatures cool down in the last couple weeks in December. The lower deck at Weaver Lake beach was removed last week. Staff began the process of repairing the existing deck and will build new steps on the north end of beach in the spring. The existing deck will be washed and re-stained. Sand will be added to the area which will extend the beach. The modifications will reduce maintenance and provide a larger beach area which we are sure will be appreciated by beach goers.

Central Park Ice Skating Loop

The ice-skating loop opened on schedule on Friday after Thanksgiving. Later the following week warm temperatures and sunny days forced a short, two-day shut down but reopened for the weekend. There appears to be another warm stretch coming followed by more typical December temperatures which should allow for normal operations going forward.

Fox 9 Weather Camera

You may have noticed the ice-skating loop on the daily weather reports on the local Fox 9 station. Staff worked with Fox 9 and the IT Department to add ethernet to the roof of the Phenow Pavilion in order to provide streaming capabilities for the weather camera. Currently, the plan is to keep the camera up for the winter season, but could be extended long term and include summer operations. Staff will keep the Board updated to any changes with Fox 9 and the weather camera.

Croki curl

Recreation staff is always looking for ideas to expand recreation programming and is working with maintenance staff to build a Croki curl court at Central Park. Croki curl is played on ice and is a combination of crokinole and curling utilizing a smaller “rock” and a small octagonal shaped court. The equipment needed to play the game will be controlled and handed out by Central Park skate rental staff.