

## AGENDA

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1. ROLL CALL: Beck, Erdos-Thayer, Rochon-Washington, Davis, Rasmussen
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
  - A. Minutes from 10/28/25 Meeting
4. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Jana Rasmussen Oath of Office
  - B. Process for Including Dakota Tribes in Sanborn Park Renaming
  - C. Sanborn Renaming Commission Feedback
5. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Manor Park Playground
  - B. Sanborn Park Construction
6. INFORMATION ONLY
  - A. Recreation
  - B. Parks
  - C. Forestry
7. SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT MEETING
8. ADJOURNMENT

## MINUTES

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7:04 CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: \_\_Beck, \_\_ Erdos-Thayer, \_\_ Rochon-Washington, \_\_ Davis

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion: Davis 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rochon-Washington Votes: 4-0

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A. Minutes from 9/23/25 PRFC Meeting  
Amend New Business to add votes.  
Vote to Approve: Beck  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Davis  
Vote: 4-0

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Ward 2 Commissioner: Jana Rasmussen

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Manor Park Playground:  
Playground being installed. Looking to have a grand opening.  
Davis: Make sure we have shade.  
Rochon-Washington: Water fountains at parks.  
Rochon-Washington: Ice rink at Manor. Promote and communicate to community.

B. Sanborn Park Remodel  
Showed Phases  
ET: Has the building been removed?  
RW: If the building isn't being removed, how  
ET: Park Building is important for community events.  
ET, RW, Beck, Davis: Courts should both face East to avoid issues with the path and serve the majority of community members.  
ET: Amenities based on community feedback, but we don't have information on which amenities the community would prefer. If we are progressing the park plan in this manor, then we should look into community feedback.  
RW: Second the community feedback.  
Beck: Phases are in a good order. Playground is important for the community.  
Beck: Ask about phases 2-4.

6. INFORMATION ONLY

A. Sanborn Parks Renaming: Names and plan second option for Dakota name in November. Discuss conversations with Crystal Boyd, Robbinsdale Historical Museum and works with Basset Creek Watershed.

RW: If we do go with a Dakota name, should we ask them what the options are and then pick one from that group?

ET: If the Council is interested in picking a Native name, then the rights to naming it should come from the Native people.

Beck: First step should be for Council to choose going with a Native name and then seek Native input.

Beck: Prefers going down the path of selecting a Dakota name.

RW: Be overly cautious with this process.

Beck: If we do go with a Dakota name, should the Community be allowed to select it?

ET: Birdtown and Blue Ribbon Parks are his favorite option.

RW: Ensure that any names that are not just performative. If we name it "Unity Park" will there any sort of visible acknowledgement to make the space more unifying?

Public art, etc...

Beck: Not a fan of any of the names.

- B. Parks Update: Community Gardens, pergolas added thanks to Hennepin County grant. Dedicated water supply to the Lake St garden in 2026.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

RW: Motion

ET: 2<sup>nd</sup>

4-0



TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission

PREPARED BY:

DATE: November 25, 2025

RE: Jana Rasmussen Oath of Office

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**Background:**

**Analysis:**

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

1. OATH OF OFFICE

**OATH OF OFFICE**

STATE OF MINNESOTA )  
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN )  
CITY OF ROBBINSDALE )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution and will obey the laws of the United States and of the State of Minnesota, that I will, in all respects, observe the provisions of the charter and the ordinances of the City of Robbinsdale and will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commissioner to the best of my judgment and ability.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission

PREPARED BY:

DATE: November 25, 2025

RE: Process for Including Dakota Tribes in Sanborn Park Renaming

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**Background:**

Sanborn Park being renamed has led to an opportunity to rename it recognizing the Native heritage of the land it sits on. Discussions about this with local Native groups have led to a better understanding of how this can be done successfully and respectfully.

**Analysis:**

The Dakota Tribes have a ritual when naming areas of land such as this. It involves the local tribe performing a prayer ceremony to receive the name from the land and ancestors. They don't select a name from a desired list, as we have assembled. This process also comes with the expectation that their will be continued education around the Native people that were here before us and that the City adopt a land recognition statement.

**Recommendation:**

For the PRFC to consider suggesting that the City Council choose a direction in the renaming of Sanborn Park. Either to go with a non-Dakota name from the selected list, or to request assistance from the local Tribes to name the park for us. If it is determined that a Dakota name is preferred then the City should give all naming rights to Dakota people, accepting what they ultimately suggest.

**Attachments:**

None

TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission  
PREPARED BY:  
DATE: November 25, 2025  
RE: Sanborn Renaming Commission Feedback

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**Background:**

The PRFC has been asked to give feedback on the following names to help guide the City Council in their decision to rename Sanborn Park. These names were shared at the October meeting so that Commissioners could get input from their Wards.

Blue Ribbon Park  
Birdtown Park  
Unity Park  
Shoreline Park  
Mendenhall Park  
Koda Park  
(Another Dakota option picked by the PRFC)

**Analysis:**

PRF Commissioners should give open feedback received from the Community on the names listed.

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

None



TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission  
PREPARED BY:  
DATE: November 25, 2025  
RE: Manor Park Playground

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**Background:**

**Analysis:**

Grand opening in the spring after PIP is installed.

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

None



TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission  
PREPARED BY:  
DATE: November 25, 2025  
RE: Sanborn Park Construction

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**Background:**

Pipe going in  
Building information  
Playground

**Analysis:**

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

None



TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission  
PREPARED BY:  
DATE: November 25, 2025  
RE: Recreation

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**Background:**

Meeting in December? Take a vote.  
No Fire and Ice event this year due to Sanborn Construction.  
Emily Hageman started as the new Recreation Associate.

**Analysis:**

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

None



TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission  
PREPARED BY:  
DATE: November 25, 2025  
RE: Parks

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**Background:**

**Analysis:**

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

None

TO: Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Commission

PREPARED BY:

DATE: November 25, 2025

RE: Forestry

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**Background:**

Continuing with (soon to be done) tree planting. Goal is to get close to 90 trees for season  
Discussed changes to city code with fellow staff specifying designed or managed native plantings,  
creating standards for folks to follow now that native plants are more common – hope to submit to  
planning commission for their December meeting  
Will soon tackle various small pruning projects come December  
Applied for \$500K DNR grant for public tree pruning – awaiting if selected  
Will order Arbor Day seedlings soon if not before  
Having new GreenCorps member Gwen help with planting

**Analysis:**

**Recommendation:**

**Attachments:**

None