

**Minutes of the
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
METROPOLITAN PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION**

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

Committee Members Present: Barbara Schmidt, Seyon Nyanwleh, Emily Piper, Daniel Shlaferman, Tony Yarusso, Jeffrey Lee,

Committee Members Absent: Dean Johnston, Bob Moeller, Carrie Wasley, Wendy Wulff, Council Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Vice Chair Yarusso called the regular meeting of the Council's Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to order at 4:03 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Schmidt, seconded by Nyanwleh to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Shlaferman, seconded by Nyanwleh to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2013 meeting of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC INVITATION: Invitation to interested person to address the Commission on matters not on the agenda.

None.

BUSINESS

Reimbursement Consideration for I-35W Bridge for Central Anoka County Regional Trail, Anoka County – Tori Dupre, Sr. Planner – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Dupre gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the request from Anoka County Parks for reimbursement consideration for a pedestrian bridge over I-35W for the Central Anoka County Regional Trail.

Schmidt asked for clarification of funding. Dupre explained that the County will be using County funds.

Yarusso asked why new and not wait for the existing bridge to be rehabbed. Karen Blaska, Anoka County Parks stated that the Highway Department determined the existing bridge will need to be replaced eventually therefore they have decided to build a separate pedestrian bridge now.

It was moved by Lee, seconded by Nyanwleh to recommend that the Metropolitan Council consider reimbursing Anoka County up to \$250,000 from its share of a future Regional Park Capital Improvement Program, funded through the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, for construction of a pedestrian bridge over Interstate 35W in the City of Lino Lakes for the Central Anoka County Regional Trail. However, the Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that reimbursement will be granted, and expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

Vice Chair Yarusso called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant Request for Rice Creek Change of Lakes Park Reserve, Anoka County – Tori Dupre, Sr. Planner – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Dupre gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the grant request for acquisition of 1.3 acres for Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve (Leibel parcel). She noted that Anoka County also requested reimbursement

consideration from the County's share of a future regional parks capital improvement program of \$84,380 which is the 25% match to this grant financed with County funds.

Piper asked if this parcel was adjacent to residential property. Stefferud reminded the Commission that the park boundary was recently amended to include this parcel and noted that it has an existing building that will be used as a maintenance facility. He also stated that there are Indian Mounds on this parcel.

Yarusso noted that there is also a fishing pier on this site along the lake.

Nyanwleh asked how the Indian Mounds will be protected. Yarusso stated that this will be explained in the Development Master Plan. Stefferud noted that the amendment to the Master Plan adding this land to the park states that protection of the Mound will be done in consultation with Native Tribes.

It was moved by Shlaferman, seconded by Piper to recommend that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Authorize a grant of up to \$253,140 from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Anoka County to finance 75% of the acquisition costs to acquire the 1.3 acre Leibel parcel as depicted in Attachment 1 for Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve. The grant should be financed with:
 - \$151,884 from the FY 2013 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation
 - \$101,256 from Metropolitan Council bonds
2. Consider reimbursing Anoka County up to \$84,380 from its share of a future Regional Park Capital Improvement Program, funded through the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, for the local 25% match to this grant. However, the Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that reimbursement will be granted, and expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

Vice Chair Yarusso called for a vote. **The motion carried** with Nyanwleh abstaining.

Amend Scope of Park Grant SC-2012-096, Three Rivers Park District – Tori Dupre, Sr. Planner – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Dupre explained the request from Three Rivers Park District to amend the scope of an existing grant as outlined in the materials provided.

It was moved by Piper, seconded by Schmidt to recommend that the Metropolitan Council amend Section 2 of Park Grant SG-2012-096 as follows:

2. Grantees Duties or Grant Project.

The Grantee, who is not a Met Council employee, will:

At Fish Lake Regional Park, reconstruct paved roads, parking lots and trails; and at Cleary Lake Regional Park, reconstruct paved roads, parking lots and trails.

Vice Chair Yarusso called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

Unified Capital Program Amendment 1st Quarter – Arne Stefferud, Manager – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Stefferud gave a PowerPoint presentation on the parks portion of the 1st quarter unified capital program amendment as outlined in the materials provided.

Yarusso clarified that we've seen these numbers before. Stefferud stated that is correct.

Yarusso asked if this is done quarterly, why the Commission has not seen it before. Stefferud stated that this is a change in procedure.

Nyanwleh asked why we are now seeing it. Stefferud pointed out the new format for Business Items and noted that it asks for known support/opposition.

Nyanwleh asked if this is then basically for information purposes. Stefferud stated yes, but noted that it is consistent with approved Master Plans and requires action.

It was moved by Lee, seconded by Piper to recommend that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Amend the 2013 Capital Budget (annual appropriation) by increasing it \$226,000 for the year 2013 and increasing the multi-year authorization by \$1,130,000 for Parks and Open Space;
2. Approve the projects under "Increasing Funding Commitments" as detailed in Attachment 1.

Vice Chair Yarusso called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

Scheduling April 2 MPOSC Meeting to include a Tour of Camp Kingswood Proposed as Special Recreation Feature – Arne Stefferud, Manager – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Stefferud outlined the meeting plan, including a tour of Camp Kingswood and a business meeting to be held at Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature.

It was moved by Shlaferman, seconded by Piper to recommend that the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission schedule their April 2, 2013 meeting under the following agenda:

3:00 p.m. meet at Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature

3:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. tour Camp Kingswood proposed as a Special Recreation Feature

4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. business meeting at Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature

Vice Chair Yarusso called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

INFORMATION

None.

REPORTS

Chair: Vice Chair Yarusso gave a brief update of bills going forward for approval in the legislature pertaining to his district.

Commissioners: None

Staff: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Sandi Dingle
Recording Secretary