

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: March 5, 2013

Subject: Scheduling April 2 MPOSC meeting to include tour of Camp Kingswood proposed as a Special Recreation Feature

District(s), Member(s): All Metropolitan Parks & Open Space Commission Districts

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute Section 473.303 and 473.147

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arne Stefferud, Manager--Regional Parks and Natural Resources (Ph. 651-602-1360)

Division/Department: Community Development Division

Proposed Action

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

Background

At the February 5th Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC) meeting, the Commission considered a request by Three Rivers Park District to amend the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* by adding a 106 acre parcel (Camp Kingswood) as a Special Recreation Feature. The MPOSC recommended that a public hearing be held on this request by the Community Development Committee of the Metropolitan Council at its April 15th meeting. The Community Development Committee concurred on that recommended action at its February 19th meeting.

Three Rivers Park District has extended an invitation to MPOSC members, Metro Council members and Council staff to tour the Camp Kingswood site prior to the April 2nd MPOSC business meeting. (See **Attachment 1: Letter from Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers Park District**)

Rationale

This tour provides an opportunity for MPOSC members and Metro Council members to see the site first hand and to get an overview of the acquisition master plan for the site. The MPOSC can also conduct its April business meeting at nearby Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature.

Funding

As noted at the February MPOSC meeting, if the Metropolitan Council amends the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* to add the Camp Kingswood site as a Special Recreation Feature, and the Council approves an acquisition master plan for the site, the Park District

will request a Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grant to partially finance the acquisition of the site.

Known Support / Opposition

Touring the Camp Kingswood site is appropriate in the MPOSC and Metro Council consideration of designating the site a Special Recreation Feature as an amendment to the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. There is no known opposition to the request.

Attachment 1, Letter from Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers Park District



February 22, 2013

Arne Stefferud, Manager
Regional Parks and Natural Resources Unit
Community Development Division
Metropolitan Council
390 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Invitation to Tour the proposed Kingswood SRF and an offer to host the MPOSC meeting on April 2, 2013 at Gale Woods Farm SRF

Dear Arne:

Three Rivers extends an offer to provide a tour of the proposed Kingswood Special Recreation Feature for Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission Members, Metropolitan Council members, and any interested staff from the Metropolitan Council. Three Rivers Park District Board of Commissioners will be invited to attend as well.

The ideal date and time for the tour would coincide with the regular MPOSC meeting date on April 2, 2013. The tour would begin at Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature at 3 PM, with the shuttle buses leaving for the Kingswood site at about 3:15. The tour will likely take about an hour, and upon the return to Gale Woods, Three Rivers can provide the meeting space and audio-visual support for MPOSC to hold their regular 4:30 meeting.

At the regular meeting, Three Rivers staff requests the opportunity to speak briefly about the acquisition Master Plan that is currently under development. The tour and presentation will provide MPOSC an opportunity to become acquainted with the site and with Three Rivers vision for Kingswood Special Recreation Feature. Consideration of approval for the master plan is scheduled for the May MPOSC meeting.

I understand that you will need to bring this invitation to MPOSC for consideration at their March meeting. I will attend that meeting and can answer any questions that may arise.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JV", is written over a faint, larger signature.

Jonathan Vlaming
Associate Superintendent
Division of Planning, Design, and Technology
763-694-7632
jvlaming@threeriversparkdistrict.org

JV/jjs

Administrative Center, 3000 Xenium Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55441-1299