

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

Tuesday, April 30, 2013

Committee Members Present: Barbara Schmidt, Emily Piper, Daniel Shlaferman, Tony Yarusso, Dean Johnston, Bob Moeller, Carrie Wasley, Wendy Wulff, Council Liaison

Committee Members Absent: Seyon Nyanwleh

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Johnston called the special meeting of the Council's Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to order at 4:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30, 2013.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Moeller, seconded by Wasley to approve the agenda. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Piper, seconded by Shlaferman to approve the minutes of the March 12, 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

Briefing on Kingswood Special Recreation Feature Acquisition Master Plan, Three Rivers Park District –Materials presented at meeting (Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers Park District)

Vlaming discussed the unique opportunity this acquisition offers. He noted that there are outstanding natural resources and talked about the intended use as a park-wide water resource educational opportunity.

Vlaming discussed upcoming action to be taken at the next meeting of this committee including the adoption of 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan Amendment adding Camp Kingswood as a Special Recreation Feature to the Regional Parks System, approving the Kingswood Special Recreation Feature Acquisition Master Plan, as well as approving a Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant for Kingswood Special Recreation Feature.

Vlaming thanked all attendees for coming.

2013-xxx Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant Request for 2 parcels for Southwest Regional Trail, Carver County – Tori Dupre, Sr. Planner – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Dupre gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the request from Carver County for a grant from the Acquisition Opportunity Fund to acquire two parcels, as described in the materials provided.

Yarusso asked about language regarding the bill board lease. Stefferud explained that the seller is asking to be compensated for a bill board lease they currently have as part of the sale.

Moeller pointed out what an important linking trail this is.

It was moved by Moeller, seconded by Yarusso to recommend that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Authorize a grant of up to \$51,579 from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Carver County to finance 75% of the acquisition costs to acquire the 0.5 acre First Minnetonka City Bank parcel as depicted in Attachment 3 for Southwest Regional Trail. The grant should be financed with:
 - \$30,947 from the FY 2013 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation
 - \$20,632 from Metropolitan Council bonds
2. Consider reimbursing Carver County up to \$17,193 from its share of a future Regional Park Capital Improvement Program, financed 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.
3. Authorize a grant of up to \$15,520 from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Carver County to finance 75% of the acquisition costs to acquire the 0.35 acre Wenz/Clark parcel as depicted in Attachment 3 for Southwest Regional Trail. The grant should be financed with:
 - \$9,312 from the FY 2013 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation
 - \$6,208 from Metropolitan Council bonds
4. Consider reimbursing Carver County up to \$5,173 from its share of a future Regional Park Capital Improvement Program, financed 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.

Chair Johnston called for a vote. **The motion carried, unanimously.**

April 30th Discussion of Thrive MSP 2040 - Dan Marckel, Planning Analyst – Research & Regional Policy

Marckel did a short presentation on the Thrive 2040: Status Report. He noted that you won't see parks/trails in these materials because everyone is for parks. He highlighted three equity principles being explored including connectivity, opportunities, and involvement. He discussed the goals outlined in the handouts provided.

Marckel discussed four issue areas being discussed at round table outreach sessions:

- Regionally significant economic places
- Water supply and a thriving region
- Land use and transit
- Affordable housing priority, location and need

Marckel outlined different ways to contact Thrive MSP with suggestions and or comments. He talked about what Thrive is looking for as far as input. He noted discussed outreach opportunities, round table discussions, scheduled in May and encouraged members of this committee to attend.

Marckel lead the group in discussion starting with regionally significant economic places. He discussed job sprawl and also equity for people of color noting that they are four times more likely to live in poverty. Wasley stated that this disparity is across every aspect of our society.

Marckel discussed trade economic clusters. Piper asked if there has been discussion regarding Minneapolis parks, residential, or industry development in the Above the Falls area.

Wasley discussed the Above the Falls and noted that they are interested in cleaning up industrial areas and enhancing parks.

Marckel discussed intermodal transport – where freight terminal transfers to trucks and asked how this interacts with parks/open space. Stefferud talked about the Midway Stadium leaving this area and re-locating to Lowertown. Wasley noted that St. Paul and Ramsey County have no net loss of park land policies.

Johnston discussed work he's done with the Regional Council of Mayors, Greater MSP, Itasca Project, etc. and the need for a Regional Economic Development Plan and asked who should be responsible to create this. Marckel stated that there will be a presentation at tomorrow's Metropolitan Council meeting regarding a study that was done and stated it is currently being discussed as to what the Council's role is in this.

Marckel discussed the economic incentive our parks provide for relocating folks moving into the Twin Cities in spite of the weather.

Yarusso discussed the need to have jobs, houses, and parks near each other. He discussed planning going on in Arden Hills that is looking at doing this on the TCAAP property.

Piper discussed park programming in low income areas that in turn provide career ladder opportunity for these kids.

Steve Sullivan, Dakota County Parks discussed the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers and urban redevelopment that includes recreation and compatible industry. He stated that this could happen in Eagan along the Minnesota River where there is now light industry.

Johnston asked for preference on timing on this meeting. Several members indicated that they needed to leave shortly.

Stefferdud suggested starting one hour earlier at our May 7, 2013 meeting to continue this discussion. Wasley made a motion to begin the May 7, 2013 meeting at 3pm. It was seconded by Johnston. **The motion carried.**

Scheduling Summer MPOSC Tours and Related Off-Site Business Meetings – Arne Stefferud, Manager – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Stefferdud discussed the schedule of tours outlined in the materials provided. He asked that members take a look at opportunities available and come back at our next meeting with their preferences.

INFORMATION

None.

REPORTS

Chair: None

Commissioners: None

Staff: Stefferud introduced Raintry Salk, Senior Parks Researcher, who just began working for the Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Sandi Dingle
Recording Secretary