

Minutes of the

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

Committee Members Present: Cunningham, Chávez, Elkins, Kramer, Munt, Rummel, Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Commers

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Cunningham called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:30p.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2014.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by, Elkins seconded by Chávez to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Chávez, seconded by Elkins to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2013 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. Motion carried.

BUSINESS

Consent

2014-22 Bruce Vento Regional Trail Master Plan Amendment, City of St. Paul

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Rummel, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve the Bruce Vento Regional Trail Master Plan Amendment.
2. Notify the City of St. Paul that if the Metropolitan Council deems that signage along the regional trail realignment is needed for safety and security of the Green Line Operations and Maintenance Facility, the City of St. Paul will be required to provide and post the signage at its own cost.

Motion carried. The committee had no questions.

Non-consent

2014-20 City of Andover Grey Oaks Comprehensive Plan Amendment, File No. 20326-5

Planning analyst Patrick Boylan presented the report to the Committee.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Kramer, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Adopt the attached review record and allow the City of Andover to place the Grey Oaks comprehensive plan amendment (CPA) into effect.
2. Revise Council's forecasts of sewer-served households upward by +200; keeping overall the forecasts the same, but shifting forecasts from the unsewered to sewer-served, as shown in Table 1 of the Review Record.

3. Advise the City of the comments in the Review Record regarding natural resources protection.

Motion carried.

Councilmember Elkins asked if the area in question rises to the level of regional significance. Local Planning Assistance Manager LisaBeth Barajas responded that the policy 4 in the *2030 Regional Development Framework* is to work with local and regional partners to communities protect and enhance natural resources and this is meant as a guide to local communities. Local entities have the option to work with the DNR and other agencies for protection purposes.

Councilmember Rummel inquired about the significance of the identified resource. Barajas responded that areas like the one in Andover are a combination of habitat, connectivity, and overall quality of a particular area as identified. Andover City Planner Stephanie Hanson noted that the City received a 2002 DNR grant to examine land in the city and identified the area as “dry oak savanna.”

Councilmember Elkins inquired how the Council wanted to take action to preserve areas like this in the future, how would we do this. Barajas responded that the Council can set aside funds; we ask local communities to work with agencies like the DNR and that this work is largely done at the local level.

2014-21 Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant for Above the Falls Regional Park (2128 Marshall Street NE), Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Parks and Natural Resources manager Arne Stefferud presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Kramer, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Reimburse up to \$85,370 from Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund’s Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) to partially finance the acquisition of 2128 Marshall St. NE for Above the Falls Regional Park. The grant is financed with \$51,222 of Fiscal Year 2014 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund money and \$34,148 of Metro Council bonds. The grant must be matched with at least \$61,790 from the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. The grant start date is November 12, 2013.
2. Authorize the Community Development Director to sign the grant agreement and accompanying documents including the restrictive covenant.
3. Direct the Metro Council staff to publish the “Decision Making Process for Awarding Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grants” to inform regional park agencies about this process and insure that the Metro Council can consider Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grant requests and award funds before land is acquired.

Motion carried.

The committee asked Mr. Stefferud a question regarding a change in the rules and the grant process.

1. The Community Development Committee will be conducting a public hearing at its February 18th meeting on revisions to those grant rules. But, the decision making process for awarding the grants is a process and would not change even if the rules for awarding the grants are changed.

2. The “Decision Making Process for Awarding Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grants” does not prevent a regional park agency from obtaining an option to purchase land for a park. However if the park agency wants a Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant to help finance acquisition of the parcel, the park agency should first obtain approval for the grant from the Metropolitan Council before it acquires the land. The decision making process helps the park agency determines when the acquisition closing should be scheduled.

INFORMATION

1. Housing Policy Plan Update
Beverley Oliver Hawkins, HPPWG co-chair provided an update to the Community Development Committee.
2. Overview of the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan Process
Jan Youngquist and Raintry Salk provided a presentation overview of the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan process.
3. 2014 CDC work plan discussion and planning
Guy Peterson led the discussion for planning the 2014 Community Development work plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary