

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, June 6, 2018

Committee Members Present:

Melander, Munt, Elkins, Schreiber, Wulff, Rodriguez, Kramer, Rummel, McCarthy, Barber

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Vice Chair Melander called the meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:00PM on Wednesday, June 6, 2018.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Rummel, seconded by McCarthy to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

It was moved by Schreiber, seconded by Munt to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2018 meeting of the Committee of the Whole. Motion carried.

INFORMATION

Overview and Discussion: 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan Update

Emmett Mullin and Dan Marckel presented on the updates to the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan. The Regional Parks Policy Plan undergoes a comprehensive review every four years. The current plan was adopted in 2015. The Council will be asked to adopt the updated Policy Plan in November 2018. Mullin and Marckel described the community engagement that has been part of the update. The community engagement has included follow-up interviews of community stakeholders engaged in the 2014 Regional Parks Policy Plan, visioning exercises with the Richfield Women's Group and Adult Basic Education group, focus group conversations, a feedback session with park agencies, and surveys of park users. Mary Robison talked about the Grant Program Guide, which is intended to clarify current policies and procedures, create a mechanism for additional communication between the Council and Regional Park Agencies, and provide appropriate flexibility for changing administrative procedures. The Grant Program Guide is reviewed annually. The 2040 plan committed to developing a park equity competitive grant program. Libby Starling spoke to the interest earnings on regional park system funds. A legislative change this year broadens the use of interest earnings for "use and betterment of system."

The updated plan will reinforce the Council's commitment to equity, as well as the other *Thrive MSP 2040* outcomes: stewardship, prosperity, livability, and sustainability. The 2040 Plan committed to the development of a regional parks equity toolkit. The draft commitment in the update is for a continuous improvement process and adaptation of the toolkit approach for master planning, plan amendment, and project funding. At its July 25 meeting, the Council will be asked to adopt the draft for public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:00PM.

Emily Getty
Recording Secretary