Business Item

Other Business

Item: 2008-363

Meeting date: December 10, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: December 1, 2008

Subject: Appointments to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space

Commission

District(s), Member(s): Districts D (Meeks, Wittsack) and G (Aguilar, Beach)

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statutes 473.303

Staff Prepared/Presented: Peter Bell Chair; MPOSC Nominating Committee Members Leppik,

Wolter and Wittsack

Division/Department: Chair's Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the following appointments to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission: **MARK PETERSON**—District D; **WILLIAM DINKEL**—District G.

Background

- The MPOSC was created by the Legislature in 1974 to advise the Council on matters relating to the regional recreation open space system.
- The MPOSC has nine members appointed by the Council—eight district representatives and a chair who represents the region at large. Terms are four years, staggered. Appointments are made in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 473.303 (Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission) and 15.0597 (appointments to multi-member agencies).

Rationale

- Two unscheduled vacancies occurred on the Commission due to member resignations and need to be filled MPOSC districts D and G.
- Notices of vacancy were published for these two positions by the Secretary of State's office and the Metropolitan Council. In accordance with state statute, notification was also provided to local government officials and district legislators.
- A public meeting was held to accept statements from and/or on behalf of applicants for these positions. Council members Peggy Leppik (chair), Dan Wolter and Lynette Wittsack served as the nominating committee. Three individuals interviewed for the two positions. Following the public meeting, the nominating committee met to develop their appointment recommendations. The committee reviewed application materials, public meeting comments, and any input received from other Council members, local elected officials and legislators. All three applicants were well qualified and, while the decision of who to appoint was a difficult one, the recommendation being presented is unanimous.
- The District D appointee will complete a term that ends January 2011. The District G appointee will complete a term that ends January 2009 as well as be appointed to a full term ending January 2013.

Funding – N/A

Known Support / Opposition - N/A