

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
390 N. Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101**

**MEETING OF
METROPOLITAN PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION**

Meeting held at the Theodore Wirth Regional Park Golf Course Chalet

August 9, 2010

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Chuck Haas, Barb Schmidt, Jeff Lee, Richard Jabs, Bob Moeller, Tom Gamec, Daniel Shlaferman, Wendy Wulff, Metropolitan Council Liaison to the Commission

ABSENT: Billy Dinkel, Doug Baines

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Haas called the meeting of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to order at 3:08 p.m. on August 9, 2010.

WELCOME

Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Commissioner welcomed the group and gave a little background on the park and why she feels Theodore Wirth Regional Park is important. She noted that the park serves a large population including the northern portion of the city and also noted that it is only 5 minutes from downtown Minneapolis.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Commissioner Jabs motioned and Commissioner Moeller seconded to approve the August 9, 2010 Agenda and the July 7, 2010 Minutes. Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

PUBLIC INVITATION:

None.

BUSINESS

Park Acquisition Opportunity Grant for 2220 Marshall Street parcel in Above the Falls Regional Park, Mpls. Park & Rec. Board - Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Stefferud gave a presentation on the request from the Minneapolis Park and Rec Board for a Park Acquisition Opportunity Grant of \$280,951 to partially finance the cost of acquiring 2220 Marshall Street, as part of Above the Falls Regional Park. Funds to finance the grant would come from the FY 2011 Parks and Trails Fund appropriation and matching Metro Council bonds. The grant request is consistent with the rules for Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grants. Staff recommended that it be approved.

It was moved by Commissioner Moeller and seconded by Commissioner Lee to recommend that the Metropolitan Council authorize a grant of \$282,450 from the Parks and Trails Fund Acquisition Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to the Minneapolis Park & Rec. Board to partially finance the acquisition of 0.37 acre (2220 Marshall St NE) for Above the Falls Regional Park. The grant should be financed with:

- \$169,470 from the FY 2011 Parks and Trails Fund appropriation
- \$112,980 Metropolitan Council bonds

With no further discussion, Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

Gamec asked if this was across the river from property purchased from the Scherer Brother's Lumber. Stefferud stated that this property is north and across the river.

Request to change scope of Grant SG-2009-043 to Permit Grant to Finance Land Acquisition as well as Trail Development, Carver County - Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Stefferud discussed Carver County's request to change the scope of Grant SG-2009-043 to permit grant to finance land acquisition as well as trail development.

Background: Grant SG-2009-043 is intended to provide the non-federal match to two trail development projects: 1) a trail in Lake Minnewashta Regional Park and associated trail underpass of Trunk Highway 41 that links to a City of Chanhassen trail, and 2) construction of 6.9 miles of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail and a trailhead facility. The County has asked that the scope of the grant be amended to allow funds to be used to acquire land needed for the Dakota Rail Regional Trail project. The request is consistent with the terms of the grant agreement and therefore staff recommended that the scope of the grant be amended.

It was moved by Commissioner Jabs and seconded by Commissioner Schmidt to recommend that the Metropolitan Council authorize an amendment to grant SG-2009-043 to allow grant proceeds to be available for acquisition of land to connect the Dakota Rail Regional Trail to a future trail at the intersection of Carver County Rd. 10 and the regional trail.

With no further discussion, Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

Information Item: Distributing State Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations for Metropolitan Regional Parks System Operations and Maintenance - Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Stefferud discussed, for information only, the distribution of State Fiscal Year 2011 appropriations for Metro Regional Park System Operations and Maintenance.

Background: State law requires the Metropolitan Council to disburse State appropriations to supplement local funding for regional parks operations and maintenance by August 1. The disbursement amount from the FY 2011 appropriation is based on a formula in law. The formula considers the amount of annual visits each park agency hosted in 2009 (weighted 40%), the actual operations and maintenance expenditures each agency spent for their portion of the regional park system in 2009 (weighted 40%) and the amount of land each park agency owns/manages as of July 1, 2010 for their portion of the regional park system, with 80% of park reserve lands counted as ¼ acre compared to an acre in a regional park (weighted 20%). This report contains the calculation result of that formula and also illustrates how much of each agency's 2010 operations and maintenance budget would be funded by the FY 2011 State appropriation.

Stefferud noted that there was an error in last year's calculations in regards to number of visits. The corrections were shown in the handouts. This is a 2 year biennial appropriation; therefore the error is being fixed prior to final appropriations.

Stefferud discussed Table 3: 2010 calculations of percent state FY 2011 Metro Regional Park Operation and Maintenance grant will finance Park Agency's 2010 O&M Budget.

REPORTS

- **Chair** – None.

- **Commissioners** – None.
- **Staff** – None.

NEXT MEETING

September 7, 2010, 4pm Room LLA.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m. Tour of Theodore Wirth Regional Park followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle
Executive Assistant
Community Development