

Other Business

Meeting date: March 11, 2009

| ADVISORY INFORMATION | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Date: | February 17, 2009 |
| Subject: | Appointments to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission |
| District(s), Member(s): | All |
| Policy/Legal Reference: | Minnesota Statutes 473.303 |
| Staff Prepared/Presented: | Peter Bell Chair; MPOSC Nominating Committee Members Steffen, Leppik and Wolter |
| Division/Department: | Chair's Office |

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the following appointments to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission: **CHUCK HAAS**—Chair; **GARY BOTZEK**—District E; **DANIEL SHLAFERMAN**—District F; and **BARBARA SCHMIDT**—District H

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

- Three district positions on the Commission are up for appointment due to term expirations: Districts E, F and H. (The District G appointment was made in late 2008 when Billy Dinkel was appointed to complete the remaining month of a term as well as to a complete four-year term.)
- Notices of vacancy were published for these 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 Natalie Steffen (chair), Peggy Leppik and Dan Wolter served as the appointments committee. Ten applications were received for the three positions. Nine individuals interviewed; one applicant was unable to attend the public meeting but submitted a letter to the committee.
- Following the public meeting, the appointments committee met to develop their recommendations. The committee reviewed application materials, public meeting comments, and input received from other Council members, local elected officials and legislators. The pool of applicants was extremely strong and committee members deliberated at length about what possibilities may exist for utilizing the skills and experiences of those not appointed. The final decision of who to appoint was unanimous.
- During this appointment time period, MPOSC Chair Glen Skovholt submitted his letter of resignation effective following the March MPOSC meeting. At this time, Chair Bell is recommending the appointment of **CHUCK HAAS** to the position of chair.
- The three district appointees will complete a term ending January 2013; the chair will complete a term ending January 2011.

Funding – N/A

Known Support / Opposition - N/A