

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

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

**Meeting held at Clarence Wigington Pavilion, Harriet Island-Lilydale Regional Park**

**June 8, 2010**

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

**ABSENT:** None.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Haas called the meeting of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to order at 3:03 p.m. on June 8, 2010.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

Commissioner Baines motioned and Commissioner Jabs seconded to approve the June 8, 2010 Agenda and the May 24, 2010 Minutes. **The motion carried.**

**PUBLIC INVITATION:** Invitation to interested persons to address the Commission on matters not on the agenda (each speaker is limited to five-minute presentation). None.

**BUSINESS**

**Park Acquisition Opportunity Grant for St. Croix Valley Regional Trail, Washington County, Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks**

Stefferd gave a presentation describing the request by Washington County for a Park Acquisition Opportunity Grant for St. Croix Valley Regional Trail.

Haas asked how Washington County is funding the \$66,145 (25% - non reimbursable) portion. John Elholm, Washington County stated that it will be funded by proceeds from the voter-approved Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment (a constitutional amendment passed in 2008). The state constitutional amendment increased the 6.5 percent state sales tax by three-eighths of a percent.

Commissioner Jabs motioned and it was seconded by Commissioner Baines to recommend that the Metropolitan Council authorize a grant of \$198,436 from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Acquisition Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Washington County to partially finance the acquisition of 1.8 acres of the Pontius property for the St. Croix Valley Regional Trail. The grant should be financed with:

- \$64,823 balance of the 2008 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriation
- \$54,239 from the 2009 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriation
- \$79,374 Metropolitan Council bonds

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

**Park Acquisition Opportunity Grant for Elm Creek Park Reserve, Three Rivers Park District, Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks**

Steffered described the request from Three Rivers Park District for a Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant to finance a portion of the cost to acquire the Zopfi parcel (1.4 acres) which includes a house as well as land within the approved boundary of Elm Creek Park Reserve. He noted that funds from the Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund Acquisition account cannot be used due to the residential structure (as part of the acquisition) on the parcel.

Commissioner Baines motioned and it was seconded by Commissioner Moeller to recommend that the Metropolitan Council authorize a grant of \$198,750 from the Parks and Trails Fund Acquisition Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Three Rivers Park District to partially finance the acquisition of 1.4 acres (Zopfi parcel 12208 W. Hayden Lake Rd.) for Elm Creek Park Reserve. The grant should be financed with:

- \$119,250 from the State Fiscal Year 2011 Parks and Trails Fund appropriation
- \$79,500 from Metropolitan Council bonds

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

**Update to 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan**

**MPOSC Recommendations on Anoka County System Plan Change, Jan Youngquist, Senior Planner-Parks**

Youngquist gave an overview of the proposed boundary adjustment that Anoka County has requested that the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC) and the Metropolitan Council consider a boundary adjustment to add Manomin County Park to the Rice Creek West Regional Trail corridor as part of the Parks Policy Plan update.

Commissioner Baines made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Gamec to recommend that the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission accept the Anoka County proposal T-18 for a boundary adjustment to the Rice Creek West Regional Trail to be incorporated into the draft *Regional Parks Policy Plan*. With no further discussion, Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

**Review of Chapter 4 Finance and Chapter 5 Management Procedures, Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks**

Steffered reviewed updates from the Chapter 4--Finance and Chapter 5—Management Procedures from the 2005 version of the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* for review as part of the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan Update*.

Steffered stated that Chapter 4 – Finance described the various State and Metro Council funded sources of revenue and formulas in State law and Council policy that are used for grants to the regional park agencies for land acquisition, capital improvements and operations and maintenance purposed. It also contains an estimate of the costs for:

- System Plan changes of adding new parks and trails for boundary amendments to existing parks and trails;

- Estimates to acquire land within existing park and trail master plan boundaries called inholdings; and
- Estimate of the costs for capital improvements to the park system.
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Baines asked how inflation/deflation is accommodated. Stefferud discussed how cost estimates are based on data provided by regional park agencies in currently dollars. No inflation factor is added since that factor is not predictable.

Schmidt asked if there is a time limit for questions/comments. Beckman asked commissioners to e-mail comments/questions to her within 2 weeks. She invited the implementing agencies to do this as well.

Stefferdud stated that Chapter 5 – Management Procedures is basically the same with the exception of an annual report to be submitted to the MN Legislature on the expenditures of Land and Legacy Amendment Parks and Trails Fund appropriations, as required by law.

Jabs thanked staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Gamec made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Moeller to recommend that the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission accept the updates from the Chapter 4--Finance and Chapter 5— Management Procedures from the 2005 version of the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* to be incorporated into the draft *Regional Parks Policy Plan*. With no further discussion, Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

## REPORTS

- **Chair** – Thanked the implementing agencies for the invites to various events throughout the regional park system.
- **Commissioners** – None.
- **Staff** – None.

## NEXT MEETING

July 6, 2010. The meetings will start at 3pm at Scott County Government Center County Board Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor in Shakopee, MN followed by a tour of Cedar Lake Farm and Doyle-Kennefick Regional Parks. Directions will be included with agendas sent prior to this meeting.

## ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m. Tour of Harriet Island-Lilydale Regional Park followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle, Executive Secretary

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