

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

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

September 13, 2011

TOUR: Commission members present enjoyed a tour of Tamarack Nature Center in Bald Eagle-Otter Lakes Regional Park prior to the business meeting.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Chuck Haas, Daniel Shlaferman, Seyon Nyanwleh, Emily Johnson Piper, Carrie Wasley, Bob Moeller,

ABSENT: Tom Gamec, Barb Schmidt, Jeff Lee, Wendy Wulff, Metropolitan Council Liaison to the Commission

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS

In accordance with the MPOSC Bylaws, oath of office was issued to new members and reappointed members including:

- Chuck Haas, Chair (Reappointment) – term to expire January 2015
- Seyon Nyanwleh, Commissioner (New) – Term to expire January 2015
- Robert Moeller, Commissioner (Reappointment) – Term to expire January 2015
- Emily Johnson Piper, Commissioner (New) – Term to expire January 2015
- Carrie Wasley, Commissioner (New) – Term to expire January 2013

Note – Jeffery Lee, Commissioner (Reappointment) will need to be sworn in at the MPOSC Meeting in October. His term will expire January 2015.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Haas called the meeting of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to order at 4:00p.m. Thursday, September 13, 2011.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Commissioner Wasley motioned and Commissioner Seyon seconded to approve the September 13, 2011 Agenda. Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.** Commissioner Wasley motioned and Commissioner Moeller seconded to approve July 19, 2011 Minutes. Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

PUBLIC INVITATION:

None.

BUSINESS

Amend Scope of Three Anoka County Regional Park Grants SG-2010-027, 028, and 073, Anoka County, Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Stefferd discussed the request from Anoka County to amend the scope of three grants and described those changes as outlined in the provided handout.

Nyanwleh asked if there are any problems anticipated. Karen Blaska, Anoka County Parks responded that they do not.

It was motioned by Moeller and seconded by Shlaferman to recommend that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Authorize an amendment to grant SG-2010-027 which amends the scope of the grant to include the following statements in the Development Project portion of the grant agreement:

“Up to \$25,000 of the remaining balance in the grant may be used to supplement the development project financed in Grant SG-2010-029 at Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park.

Up to \$75,000 of the remaining balance in the grant may be used at Lake George Regional Park for reconstruction of the beach retaining wall.”

2. Authorize an amendment to grant SG-2010-028 which amends the scope of the grant to include the following underlined language in the Development Project portion of the grant agreement:

“At Lake George Regional Park, demolish existing restroom building, and construct a new accessible restroom building, landscape restoration, utilities, site furnishings, signage, plus design, engineering and reconstruction of the beach retaining wall, fees and contingencies.”

3. Authorize an amendment to grant SG-2010-073 which amends the scope of the grant to include the following underlined language in section 2 (Grantee Duties or Grant Project) of the grant agreement:

“At Martin-Island-Linwood Lakes Regional Park, redevelop the existing public boat access to Martin Lake, including paving the parking lot, reconstructing the boat ramp and installing a courtesy dock. Up to \$20,000 may be used to supplement a \$400,000 Fiscal Year 2012 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grant for the design and construction of a boat launch at Mississippi West Regional Park.”

Without further discussion, Chair Haas called for a vote. **The motion carried.**

INFORMATION ITEM

Grants Financed with FY 2012 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Appropriation and Proposed 2012-2017 Parks CIP – Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Stefferud gave an overview of 2012-2017 CIP which proposes spending \$194.4 million on parks projects. This is an information item only and no action will be taken.

Stefferud discussed the formula (in MN Statute 85.53, Subd. 3) and how it is used to disburse appropriations from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund.

Moeller asked about using some of the funds for non-regional purposed, for example a trail. Stefferud stated that this could not be done, unless a study were done to deem it regional in which case a Master Plan would be needed.

Stefferud discussed annual amounts awarded and showed what each agency would receive. Tables provided in the handouts were reviewed outlining, by agency (and priority) projects requesting to be funded.

Nyanwleh asked if it is common where grant money (left over) is then asked to be used on another project. Stefferud stated that although it doesn't happen often it does happen. He explained that bids in this economy often become competitive and therefore projects cost less than was anticipated.

Nyanwleh asked if these requests create jobs. Stefferud stated that they do and noted that reports are made to the legislature regarding the number of jobs the bonding bill creates.

REPORTS

- **Chair** – None.
- **Commissioners** – None.

- **Staff** – Youngquist gave an update on the Wayfinding Public Hearing process and noted that after comments are collected, the matter will be brought back to this commission.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be October 4, 2011 beginning at 4:00pm at the Metropolitan Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle
Executive Assistant
Community Development