



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

11360 Highway 212 West, Suite #2
Cologne, MN 55322
Phone (952) 466-5250 Fax (952) 466-5223
www.co.carver.mn.us/parks

Division of Public Works

11360 Hwy. 212 West, Suite #1
Cologne, MN 55322
Phone (952) 466-5200
Fax (952) 466-5223

Carver County Park Commission Regular Meeting

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

Lake Minnewashta Regional Park, 6900 Hazeltine Blvd., Excelsior, MN 55317

Park Tour 6:30 p.m.

Park Commissioners Assemble at the Maintenance Building

Regular Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Park Commissioners Return from Tour to Maintenance Building

Agenda

- 1) Call Regular Meeting to Order (7:30 p.m.)
- 2) Roll Call (7:31 p.m.)
- 3) Approval of the May 11th, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes (7:32 p.m.)
- 4) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (7:33 p.m.)
- 5) Approval of Agenda (7:34 p.m.)
- 6) Open to the Public (7:35 p.m.)
 - a. Steve Gunther, Aquatic Invasive Species Inspections
- 7) Commissioner Liaison Report (7:45 p.m.)
- 8) Old Business (7:50 p.m.)
 - a. Recommendation for K-9 Search Services (Klevan Schmitz)
- 9) New Business (8:00 p.m.)
 - a. 2012 Budget Request (Walsh, Information to be distributed at meeting)
 - b. 2012 CIP Request (Walsh, Information to be distributed at meeting)
 - c. Adopt a Trail Program (Klevan Schmitz)
- 10) Staff Reports (8:45 p.m.)
 - a. TH 41 Trail and Underpass (Walsh)
 - b. Dakota Rail Regional Trail (Walsh)
 - i. Phase I Construction
 - ii. Phase II Planning
 - c. Union Pacific Railroad Acquisition (Walsh)
 - d. Events, Activities (Klevan Schmitz)
 - e. Legislative Update (Walsh)
 - f. Goose Management (Walsh, Klevan Schmitz)
- 11) Commission Member Reports (8:55 p.m.)
- 12) Set Next Meeting Date (8:58 p.m.)
- 13) Adjourn Meeting (9:00 p.m.)

Please note if a Commission Member cannot attend the meeting, please call the Park Office at 466 – 5250.

Draft
Meeting Minutes
May 4th, 2011 Regular Meeting

Members Present: Neil Wingert, Jerald Moja, Thomas Hermann, Myron Karki, Cindy Dobratz, Gail Von Bargen

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Lenny Klevan Schmitz, Commissioner Tim Lynch

Prior to the official meeting from 6:30-8 p.m., Staff took members of the Park Commission on a walking tour of Baylor Regional Park. As part of the tour the park commission visited the campground, trails, prairie area, boardwalk trail, beach, Onan Observatory and shelter facilities along the way.

Public Present: N/A

CALL TO ORDER - Moja called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m.

MINUTES - Karki motioned to approve the April 13th, 2011 minutes. Wingert seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

AGENDA- Karki asked to add the topic of service dogs from the last meeting to the agenda. Wingert motioned to approve the agenda with the one addition. Karki seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC- N/A

LIAISON REPORT- Commissioner Lynch reported that the Carver County Board approved and signed the purchase agreement for the Union Pacific Railroad corridor on May 3rd.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Walsh asked for thoughts from the park commission about the presentation last month from the K-9 search and rescue group. Overall members of the park commission felt that it could be a service permitted in the park because of the special nature of what they do and that the dogs are actually registered as service animals which gives them special privileges. Walsh noted that he is still waiting to hear back from the attorneys office about the ordinance language. Karki proposed allowing the service group to be in the park other than Lake Minnewashta Regional Park for the first year due to the history at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park and to try things out for the first year. No decision was made at this time.

STAFF REPORTS-

- a. Update on the Lake Minnewashta Regional Park/TH 41 Trail and Underpass

Walsh reported that engineering work is nearing completion and the project memorandum is close to being approved. Walsh indicated the review process for the box culvert is very lengthy but still hopes to have the project bid and have the box culvert installed by winter 2011/2012. This is very important because TH 41 will be closed for the culvert installation and next year TH 5 will be closed for a significant portion of the year and TH 41 is likely to be the detour route around the TH 5 closure.

- b. Dakota Rail Regional Trail

The grand opening celebration is being planned for May 21st from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Mayer Trailhead. Activities being planned for the grand opening include a bike clinic, ribbon cutting, family bike ride and refreshments.

Drainage issues still need to be corrected at Goose Lake Drive and the last 2000 feet of trail need to be paved along with a final punch list of items for the Phase I project.

May 11th is the meeting to kick off planning for phase II of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail from Mayer west to the McLeod County Line. Depending on the date selected for the kick off meeting, the May Park Commission meeting might be rescheduled or rolled into the kick off meeting.

Walsh reported that he met with the Equestrian Subcommittee to discuss equestrian use on the Dakota Rail Regional Trail. The group indicated that the area is not well suited for a separated trail and that even if a trail was installed the 5 miles trail would not be overly desirable for equestrians because of the straight and flat route and shorter distance so it was not recommended to explore this any further.

- c. Union Pacific Railroad/Extension of the Minnesota River Valley Bluffs Regional Trail

Walsh indicated that an agreement has been reached on the terms of the sale of the Union Pacific Railroad to Carver County. A title report is being prepared. Now that the purchase agreement has been signed by Carver County, Union Pacific needs to sign the agreement and then a closing date will be set for the acquisition.

- d. Events and activities:

Klevan Schmitz reported that the Earth Day park clean up took place on April 30th. Despite cold temps and rain about 35-40 people attended. Also on April 29th the Waconia Conservation Club from Waconia High School assisted with the installation of 150 trees at Lake Waconia Regional Park. Klevan Schmitz also

mentioned the Dakota Rail Regional Trail Grand Opening, National Get Outdoors Day and Summer Day Camp opportunities.

e. Legislative Update

Walsh reported that Parks and Trails funds are being debated at the legislature, primarily how the funds should be distributed to the Metro Parks, State Parks and outer metro areas.

NEXT MEETING - For June, 8th at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park at 6:30 pm.

ADJOURN - Wingert made a motion to adjourn. Hermann seconded the motion. Motions passes 6-0 Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

11360 Highway 212, Suite #2

Cologne, MN 55322

Phone (952) 466-5250 Fax (952) 466-5223

www.co.carver.mn.us/parks

Division of Public Works

11360 Hwy. 212, Suite #1
Cologne, MN 55322
Phone (952) 466-5200
Fax (952) 466-5223

Memorandum

TO: Carver County Park Commission
CC: Marty Walsh, Parks Director
FROM: Lenny Klevan Schmitz, Parks Coordinator
RE: K-9 Search Services

Search and Rescue Animals Training

Last winter staff received a request to consider training in our parks for rescue dogs from K-9 Search Services which is a volunteer organization that provides the search and rescue services throughout the region and state. At the April 2011 park commission meeting two members of K-9 Search Services provided the park commission with information about their organization and the services they provide. They made a request to use the Carver County Park facilities for training their animals throughout the year but primarily during the winter months.

At the May 2011 meeting, park commission members discussed the request further and asked staff to put together a recommendation for the June meeting for comment.

Recommendation

It is recommended to permit the K-9 Search Services organization the use of designated park areas. K-9 Search Services would be issued a permit for designated park areas and they would provide a list of qualified members. The permit would allow for use of designated areas within Baylor Regional Park, Lake Waconia Regional Park and the parcel of land along the Crow River for search and rescue dog training and events during the fall and winter months from November 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012 as a trial period. Training activities should be limited to no more than 2 visits to any one facility per month and limit the number of service animals to 2 animals per visit unless prior approval is provided by the Parks Director or designee. K-9 Search Services will provide a schedule for their training exercises identifying the dates, times and park locations they intend to use. This schedule would be incorporated into the permit. Requested changes to that schedule/permit need to be submitted to the Parks Department at least 1 day in advance and approved.

After the trial period, a better understanding will be gained from the training exercises and complications with the activity known. In May of 2012 the permit may be renewed and could be expanded to include Lake Minnewashta Regional Park.

By permit, the parks department will be notified in advance of trainings in the parks. A sign will be placed at the entrance to the park facility notifying other users of the activity in the park. Additionally, any qualified handler/trainer needs to pose a copy of the use permit from the Parks Department while training in a park area. Trainers are to wear identifiable coat, vest, shirt or ID Tag of the K-9 Search Services. Dogs need to be identified by wearing appropriate vest and bell.



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

11360 Highway 212, Suite #2
Cologne, MN 55322
Phone (952) 466-5250 Fax (952) 466-5223
www.co.carver.mn.us/parks

Division of Public Works

11360 Hwy. 212, Suite #1
Cologne, MN 55322
Phone (952) 466-5200
Fax (952) 466-5223

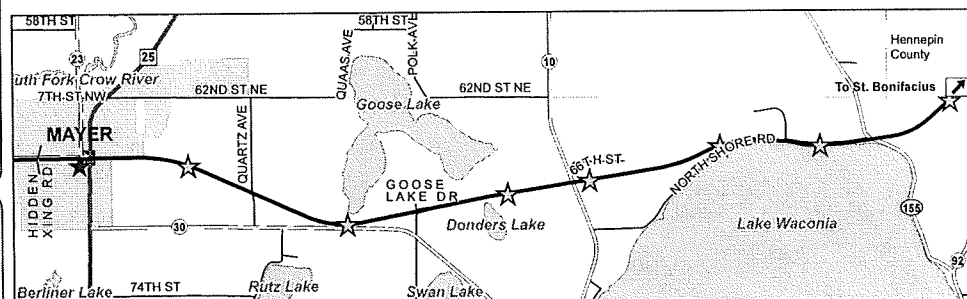
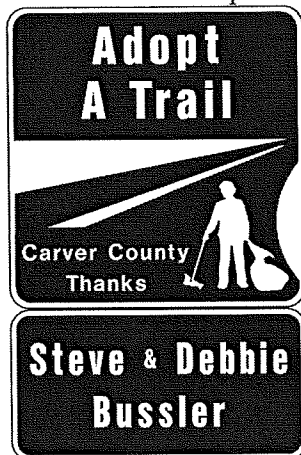
Memorandum

TO: Carver County Park Commission
CC: Marty Walsh, Parks Director
FROM: Lenny Klevan Schmitz, Parks Coordinator
RE: Adopt-A- Trail Program

Adopt-A-Trail Program

Park staff has developed an Adopt-A-Trail program to attract volunteers to assist with picking up litter and providing notification of other trail needs pertaining to maintenance or safety concerns. Carver County Public Works already has an Adopt-A-Highway program and many other agencies also have similar trail or park programs which our proposed program is patterned after. The program requests volunteers to adopt roughly a 1 mile section of trail. Three trail pickups a year and a two year commitment would be required. The trail would be divided up into sections extending from one rest area to another providing an easily identifiable beginning and ending points for each group. Additionally, a sign would be placed at each end of the adopted section identifying who has adopted the portion of the trail or if a portion is available for adoption.

At the Dakota Rail Regional Trail grand opening we had one family already express interest in adopting a portion of the trail and have been contacted by a local scout group to adopt another portion of the trail. Below is an example of a sign for a portion of adopted trail and the map with rest areas of the trail:



It is requested that the Park Commission recommend approval of the new Adopt-A-Trail program for the Dakota Rail Regional Trail.