



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

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Division of Public Works

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Park Commission Meeting **Wednesday, February 8th, 2017**

6:30pm

Public Works Headquarters Building
Meeting Room 1
11360 Hwy 212
Cologne, MN 55322

Regular Meeting Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (6:30 p.m.)
- 2) Election of Officers (6:31 p.m.)
- 3) Approval of the January 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes (6:45 p.m.)
- 4) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (6:46 p.m.)
- 5) Approval of Agenda (6:47 p.m.)
- 6) Commissioner Liaison Report (6:49 p.m.)
- 7) Open to the Public (6:49 p.m.)
- 8) Discussion (6:50 p.m.)
 - a. Review Planned Carver County Veterans Memorial Registry Monument
 - b. Review 2017 Work Program
- 9) Staff Reports (7:30 p.m.)
 - a. Legislative Update
 - b. Park Operations and Recreation Services Update
 - c. MN River Bluffs Regional Trail
 - d. Historical Consulting Work – Coney Island
 - e. ParkSide Church Request for Utility Easement
 - f. Parks Open Space and Trails System Plan Update
- 10) Commission Member Reports (7:45p.m.)
- 11) Set Next Tour/Meeting Date (7:55p.m.) – Proposed Date March 8, 2017
- 12) Adjourn Meeting (8:00 p.m.)

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

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2017

Members Present: Carroll Aasen, Curt Kobilarcsik , Ron Trick, Mark Lagergren, Jim Boettcher

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Connie Keller, Sam Pertz

Call to Order: Aasen, called the meeting to order at **(6:30p.m.)**

Reappointment of Commissioners: (6:30)
Boettcher, Bruner and Manders reappointed to Parks Commission by County Board

Approval of Minutes: (6:30p.m.)
Trick motioned to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2016 regular meeting minutes Boettcher seconded the motion.
Motion passed 5 to 0

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: (6:31 p.m.)
Additional Staff Report added – Trunk Hwy 5 Master Plan – Appointing Park Commission member to task force.

Approval of Agenda: (6:31 p.m.)
Boettcher motioned to approve meeting agenda
Trick seconded the motion.
Motion passed 5 to 0.

Commissioner Liaison Report: (6:32p.m.)
Not Present

Open to the Public: (6:32 p.m.)
None Present

Old Business (6:32.m.)

A. Recreation event/Program Cancellation Procedure

Staff reviewed the cancellation procedure with Park Commission and was asking for approval of the Park Commission to start to use this policy.

Staff stated that we would use the procedure as presented and would possible refine if they find the procedure needs to be refined with additional language that deals with school group policies, that are different then our procedures at this time.

Staff stated that if they find they need to add additional language to the procedure, we could bring it back next year to amend the procedure and ask for the Park Commission to approve amendments.

Staff is requesting that the Park Commission approve the Recreation and Program Cancellation and Refund Procedure

Trick made the motion to approve the Recreation and Program Cancellation and Refund Procedure
Kobilarcsik seconded the motion
All in favor
Motion passed 5 to 0

Questions or Comments:

Kobilarcskik asked about the school policy; staff stated we have to get the school policies and maybe incorporate them into our procedure.

Discussion was had on the different policies within school and church groups.

No other questions or comments

Staff Reports: (6:50 p.m.)

A. Metropolitan Council Update – 2016 Regional Parks Visitor Study Report

Staff shared with the Park Commission the Metropolitan Council 2016 visitor studies and shared the cliff notes version of this 90 page study. Staff shared the ten Implementing Regional Park Agencies that participated in the study and that about 5,459 surveys were taken at the participating agency's parks and trails. Staff shared information that was gathered in the surveys – which was demographics (age, gender, ethnicity, income), shared key findings from surveys (hiking, biking and walking most popular activities). Some of the other things shared frequency of visits to parks, how long people stay at the parks, safety in parks and usage in the parks and trails.

Staff also shared graphics for the above mentioned items with a PowerPoint presentation that was supplied by Metropolitan Council. Staff shared the County portion of the survey which showed percentages of people doing certain activities and primary reason for a visit and number of visits. Shared where park users get there information on park and trails prior to coming to park or trail. Amount of time people are spending in the parks or on the trails and also sharing what different ethnicities are doing in the parks.

Staff stated that they wanted to share this information and this may have an impact on formula for funding in the future.

Questions or Comments:

Aasen stated that a portion of this report states the distance from primary residence was 1 to 2 miles which he thought very interesting.

No other questions or comments

B. Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Video

Staff shared a video that staff participated in this past summer about the Dakota Rail Regional Trail and Coney Island and the use of the Parks and Trails Legacy Funds to accomplish these two projects. Also on the video were clips from other park agencies that received parks and trails legacy funds.

Staff stated that the video is a promotional tool that Metropolitan Council put out.

Questions or Comments:

Trick asked about the Dakota Rail Regional Trail and if it goes to Lester Prairie; Staff stated yes and that it is a gravel trail. He further asked about the money they received for their portion of trail. Staff stated that it will be enough to pave the gravel portion.

No questions or comments

C. Legislative Update

Staff shared what is going on with legislation, stating that staff had a meeting with Representative Nash to talk about funding for the Lake Waconia Regional Park and he is not in favor of a bounding bill for the park and is more in support of getting more money through the legacy fund; staff doesn't feel this strategy will be successful. Staff stated that other agencies have utilized bonding to complete projects.

Staff stated that the operations and maintenance funding was submitted by the Metropolitan Council. The request was double what we typically get. The request made it to the Governor's Office, he hasn't ruled it out but we don't know the outcome yet.

Bonding bill, there seems to be interest to move it forward this year. The Governor is recommending about 10 million to regional parks which would mean that we would be reimbursed for past land acquisition costs.

Staff stated that there will be a decrease to legacy funding due to revenue not as strong as expected. Staff shared a chart on funding for the next four years and explain the process and the dollar amount change for certain projects and/or programmer position.

Some of the other legislative priorities were to pass a bill to allow us to change our priorities for projects funded with Parks and Trails Funds. Staff also shared percentage of legacy funds that are shared throughout the state.

No comments or questions

D. Park Operations and Recreation Services Updates

Staff shared that the 1st winter event of our 3 planned events scheduled this winter was well attended at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park with about 150 people coming out on a cold Saturday morning. They also participated at an indoor log rolling event that afternoon at the Minnetonka Middle School and that also was well attended.

Have some winter classes coming up this weekend for snowshoeing and cross country ski lessons. Staff will be participating in programming with the City of Chanhassen school group on Monday.

Next candlelight ski will be on January 21st at Baylor Regional Park, if any of the Park Commission members are interested in coming out.

Winter rentals start up this weekend with the new snow.

Camping reservations started on Tuesday morning.

Hiring of seasonal staff is underway for winter and for next summer.

E. MN River Bluffs Regional Trail

Staff stated that they are working on our permit with the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority which is taking a little longer than anticipated, hope to have this completed by mid-January. Staff is hoping to have a bid opening by end of February first of March. Everything else seems to be on track.

F. Historical Consulting Work – Coney Island

Staff shared report and will send out a complete report to Park Commission members. Staff stated that they will meet with Blondo to review the report, and to have the document cleaned up so we can send this report out to State Historic Preservation Office and find out the next steps for a Phase II if needed.

Staff stated that they are interested on what the phase II will entail and what SHIPPO will be looking for.

Questions or Comments:

Lagergren asked about what staff is feeling on a second dig; Staff stated that it will probably happen. Lagergren also asked about the cost and how will this be paid for; Staff stated it may come out of the donation fund but would need to have conversation with donor or find another source.

Aasen asked who the contractor was that did the work; Staff stated that the contractor was Blondo

No other questions or comments

G. ParkSide Church Request for Utility Easement

Staff stated that we are finalizing the easement agreement and will lead to a conversation on the length of time for the project and the restoration process and our commitment to LCCMR for reestablishing the area.

H. Parks and Open Space and Trails System Plan Update

Staff stated not much to update, consultant is putting together schedule and should have that soon.

I. Trunk Hwy 5 Master Plan – Added Agenda Item

Staff stated that we are moving forward with the TH Hwy 5 Master Plan, and is looking to move forward with a task force group with some of the stakeholders which are the City of Chanhassen, City of Victoria, Lifetime Fitness, Arboretum, MNDOT, public health. Staff is looking to see if a park commission member would like to be on the stakeholder committee, which will meet at the Chanhassen Recreation Center. The first meeting will be held at the end of January in the evening. Park Commission member Kobilarcsik volunteered to be part of the group.

Commission Member Reports: (7:33 p.m.)

Aasen commented that he, Boettcher and Bruner all attending the County Board's legislative platform breakfast for Carver County. Discussion was had about the meeting.

No other reports.

Next Meeting Date: (7:35 p.m.)

Next meeting will be on February 8, 2017 at 6:30p.m. Meeting will be held at the Public Works Building in Cologne. Discussion on meeting topics to be covered - pesticides spray in parks.

Adjourn Meeting: (7:40 p.m.)

Lagergren motioned to adjourn the meeting

Boettcher seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5 to 0.

Final Minutes prepared by Connie Keller

Approved by Commission Chair

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