



## CARVER COUNTY PARKS

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Division of Public Works

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### Park Commission Meeting

Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**5:30p.m. Regular Meeting and Tour Coney Island**

**Meet Lola's**  
**318 E Lake Street**  
**Waconia, MN 55387**

#### Agenda

- 1) Boarding at Lola's for Coney Island (5:30 p.m.)
- 2) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (5:30 p.m.)
- 3) Approval of the August 9, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes (5:31 p.m.)
- 4) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (5:32 p.m.)
- 5) Approval of Agenda (5:33 p.m.)
- 6) Commissioner Liaison Report (5:34 p.m.)
- 7) Open to the Public (5:38 p.m.)
- 8) Transport out to Coney Island (5:40 p.m.)
- 9) Staff Reports Conducted in Route (5:40 p.m.)
  - a. Preliminary review of Coney Island Phase II Historic and Prehistoric Archaeological Evaluation
  - b. TH 5 Regional Trail Master Plan
  - c. Relocation of Xcel Power Line
  - d. Park Operations and Recreation Services Update
  - e. County Comprehensive Plan Update
  - f. Emergency/Public Phone Service in Park System
  - g. Update on the Legislative/Bonding Request for Waconia Regional Park
  - h. Update on Veterans Memorial
- 10) Commission Member Reports (7:30 p.m.)
- 11) Set Next Tour/Meeting Date (7:31 p.m.) – Proposed Date October 11, 2017
- 12) Return to Lola's (7:32 p.m.)
- 13) Adjourn Meeting (7:32 p.m.)

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

# Meeting Minutes

## August 9, 2017

**Members Present:** Carroll Aasen, Gerald Bruner, Jim Manders, Curt Kobilarcsik, Jim Boettcher

**Staff Present:** Marty Walsh, Connie Keller

**Tour MN River Bluffs Regional Trail: (6:30p.m.)**

Park Commission members and Staff toured the MN River Bluffs Trail. Staff stated that the work is about 95% done and shared what still needed to be done on the trail.

**Call to Order:** Manders, called the meeting to order at **(7:06p.m.)**

**Approval of Minutes: (7:06p.m.)**

Aasen motioned to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2017 regular meeting minutes. Boettcher seconded the motion.  
Motion passed 5 to 0.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: (7:06p.m.)**

None

**Approval of Agenda: (7:06 p.m.)**

Kobilarcsik motioned to approve meeting agenda.  
Bruner seconded the motion.  
Motion passed 5 to 0.

**Commissioner Liaison Report: (7:06p.m.)**

Not Present

**Open to the Public: (7:06 p.m.)**

None Present

**Old Business: (7:07p.m.)**

***A. Preliminary Review of Coney Island Phase II Historic and Prehistoric Archaeological Evaluation***

Staff shared the historic and the prehistoric reports from the island. Staff stated that the consultant is done with work on the island and has provided us with a draft report on the archeology work on the island. Staff reviewed what is in the reports, what they found, where they found items. Staff stated that the report is recommending that the prehistoric work should be included with the historical work report. The historical work covers from 1890 – 1920 the time period for buildings and was put into the national historic register and what has been found on the island pertaining to the prehistoric is just as important and may have an effect on what we can and can't do.

Staff reviewed some of items that were found and that they can determine a time period of when they were from.

Staff shared a map that showed of the island which showed six of the cluster areas to help catalog items. Discussion was had on the items found, the time period they may have come from, the numerous areas on the map where things were found and what the island was used for, living or recreational purposes.

Staff shared picture of a pottery shard.

Staff stated that the drafts of the documents that have been shared are on the county website.

Staff stated that at this time we don't know what effect these documents will have on our plans for the island. Also stating that they have asked for the state statues on what we can do and can't do on the island due to its historical nature of the island. Discussion was had on the process and if the island is being funded by federal funds verses state funds and if that would determine the process. Staff stated it will be nice to have historical references out at the island. The question is what we need to keep to show the history of the island.

Staff shared the Phase II Historical Evaluation which reaffirms the historical context of the early recreation in Minnesota and why it was included in the National Registry of Historical Places. Stating it marks a certain time when people came out by train to recreate. Staff shared that even though the buildings are gone the foundations of some of these buildings are still there. Staff shared pictures of some of the foundations found and rock that was used.

Staff stated that we are hoping that this doesn't change what we had planned for island and if it does do we need to change the master plan.

Staff shared the different sites and buildings on the island and the Blondo Consulting Inc. recommendations, what would need to be removed, documenting and recording of everything on the island. Staff also shared the engineering report on the different methods of preserving foundations, the process and the possible costs of the options. Staff stated that we will go through each site and see if there is enough of a historical value to preserve.

Staff shared pictures of the original buildings and what is left of those buildings and what are some of the dangers involved with keeping these structures. Staff shared that they need to update the historical report with the current condition of the building beside the original picture of building. Discussion was had on the island and the structures and what it is left of some of the structures and locations.

Staff stated that consultant is recommending a broader historical time period from 1880 – 1970. Staff stated that the last habitable building was about 1974.

Staff stated the next steps in the process will be to work with consultant planner to see how we go about connecting the east end of the island to the west side of island with a trail. We will need this to show to SHPO and the relationship to the trail and what legally we are required to do. Discussion was had on the foundations and what should be kept and what we shouldn't and if this is going to take years to complete.

Staff stated that we have to make sure that we do things right, make sure the right people are involved for things to go as smoothly as possible and as quickly as we can.

Staff stated that no action is need at this time.

Questions or Comments:

Bruner asked if they found anything largely intact; Staff stated the soil profile is intact, but not much eles.

Manders asked what time frame is represented; Staff stated that 1000 to 1500 years ago.

Kobilarcsik asked if SHPO has been out to the island; Staff stated that yes. They came out last year before the Phase I started.

Manders asked about the archeological dig that the county did for the 101 bridge and if any of the items found there have any correlation to items on the island; Staff stated that they didn't know.

Bruner stated he is not sure why they want to save all walls; Staff stated that some of the walls would be nice to keep but some of them are dangerous.

Aasen stated that some of the structures would be nice to keep to show what they look like.

Aasen asked if they have historical facts that the Native Americans were out there for recreation; Staff stated the historical consultant may say that is what they believe was happening.

Aasen asked what the timeline for SHPO is to get back to us; Staff stated that the building report has not gone to them. We are days away from the report going to them. Then they will have about 30 days to review. Staff stated that we should have a preliminary trail plan, active use area and try to avoid some of the areas in questions to share with SHPO.

No other questions or comments

**Staff Reports: (7:47 p.m.)**

**A. TH 5 Regional Trail Master Plan**

Staff stated that they are pretty far along in the process. Staff has had discussions with the City of Chanhassen about the area around the Rec Center having two different options and how do we put this into the master plan language. The public stated that they like to see a box culvert under highway 5, both options are viable and we will have to make decision in the future. Discussion was had on the both options.

Staff stated that there are two options at the arboretum and the one they are leaning towards is the alignment that follows the roadway.

Staff wants to get through Met Council by January or February and have a placeholder for funding, still lots to do with the arboretum.

No Comments or Questions

**B. Waconia Event Center**

Staff stated that we sent out about 240 RFP packets to area restaurants, food trucks, caterers, property managers, event planners and also put ads in the local paper and Star Tribune. Staff stated the RFP contained potential costs of running the event center, potential revenue. Ballroom has had about 30 to 40 events a year.

Open house will be on August 18<sup>th</sup> to show building and share what the building has to offer. Proposals will be due back mid-September.

No Questions or Comments

**C. Relocation of Xcel Power Line**

Staff shared pictures with park commission members on the area that Xcel will be relocating power poles on County Road 92 going south. Staff stated that some of these poles & guide wires will come very close to trail area and we are now working with Xcel and property owners on these areas. Discussion was had on the area in question and pole alignment.

No Questions or Comments

**D. Sealcoating and Crack Seal Work**

Staff shared that the asphalt trail at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park has been seal coated, a soy oil base product was used, advantages of this product it penetrates the asphalt surface and pliable longer and this product is clear so the lines on the trail do not get covered up. Staff stated that we received one complaint from a park user. We will be using this product on the roads and parking lots in September.

No Questions or Comments

**E. Capital Bonding Request & Tour of Lake Waconia Regional Park**

Staff stated that they have setup a meeting with area legislators and they will be touring the park on August 22<sup>nd</sup> to talk about the bonding request. Staff also stated we will meet with County Board to go over the format of the meeting and the request. We will possibly tour the island. The hope is to get on the governor's bonding tour and with any luck get be recommend in the governor's budget for projects. If we don't get on the tour we will continue forward with the request.

No Questions or Comments

**F. Park Operations and Recreation Services update**

No report on park operation or recreation services

**i. County Road 10 Trailhead**

Staff stated that this project is sliding down the work schedule; we will continue to do some more soil investigation with soil and water.

**ii. New Goose Deterrent Strategy**

Staff shared that we have installed strobe lights at Lake Minnewashta and Baylor Park beaches to try and get the geese to move away from the beaches, we are trying to get away from the trapping of geese due to the cost. We also have tried a spray product on grass to move geese away from these areas. We won't know if this will be successful until next year.

**iii. Water Testing & Beach Facilities**

Most of the results have been good at the beaches, we have had a couple samples that have been boarder line but after resampling the results have come back better. Baylor's beach is closed due to the green water.

**iv. 2016 Use Estimate Report**

Staff shared with Park Commission members the 2016 use numbers at the parks and stated that the numbers are better in some areas and some are way lower than in previous years. Staff stated that the MN River Bluffs trail has been high for a few years and now are way lower than in previous years. After talking with Met Council there could have been an error in tabulation. This error could impact our funding, they are investigating. Staff stated that Baylor Park had higher attendance when gas prices were higher. Lower numbers at Lake Minnewashta could have been from the beach closure last year.

No Questions or Comments

**G. ParkSide Church Easement Request**

Staff stated that we are still working on the easement request, issues with the format of the first right of refusal and this has slowed the process down. This information has been brought back to Metropolitan Council on how they want to handle.

**H. Comprehensive Plan Update**

Staff shared a paper point presentation. Staff stated that we are working on an update to the existing comprehensive plan by updating with new trails and bringing maps up to date. Regional element changes include adding Coney Island, the addition of the MN River Bluffs trail, TH 41 trail, and the small section up by Watertown which is inconsistent with Metropolitan Council mapping work.

Staff shared comments from other park agencies, identified needs such as single track mountain biking, dog park, pickle ball, splash pads, archery, etc.

Staff commented TCW corridor and that it might be a viable trail option in the future.

Staff shared comments received from the public engagement and survey for the comprehensive plan.

No Comments or Questions

**Commission Member Reports: (8:21 p.m.)**

Aasen asked if we could take another tour of the island to see some of the items/spots covered in the reports. Discussion was had on time and date to do this tour and what to possibly see out there.

Boettcher will not be at next meeting.

Bruner said he attended the comprehensive meeting.

Manders stated that he rode the Dakota Rail Trail and had no issues with the bollards; Staff stated that we have had no negative comments. Discussion was had on the bollards.

Boettcher asked about the North Shore Road; Staff stated that we are working with the engineering firm and our soil and water conservation to make this project grant eligible.

**Next Meeting Date: (8:32 p.m.)**

Next meeting will be on September 13, 2017 at 5:30p.m. for a tour of Coney Island.

**Adjourn Meeting: (8:35p.m.)**

Bruner motioned to adjourn the meeting

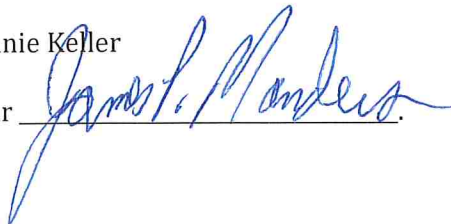
Boettcher seconded the motion.

Motion passed 4 to 0

Kobilarcsik left meeting at 7:30pm

Final Minutes prepared by Connie Keller

Approved by Commission Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James L. Manders", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and extends above and below the line.