



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

6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 13th, 2012

*Lake Minnewashta Regional Park
6900 Hazeltine Blvd., Chanhassen MN 55318*

Agenda

- 1) Lake Minnewashta Park and TH 41 Trail Tour (6:30p.m.-7:45p.m.)
- 2) **Call Regular Meeting to Order (7:45 p.m. Park Maintenance Shop)**
- 3) Roll Call (7:45 p.m.)
- 4) Approval of the April 10th, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes (7:46 p.m.)
- 5) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (7:50 p.m.)
- 6) Approval of Agenda (7:51 p.m.)
- 7) Commissioner Liaison Report (7:52 p.m.)
- 8) Open to the Public (7:55 p.m.)
- 9) New Business (8:15 p.m.)
 - a. Request to Gate the Lake Bavaria Boat Access
 - b. 2013 Budget Request
 - i. Operations
 - ii. Capital Improvement
- 10) Old Business (8:45 p.m.)
 - a. 2012-2013 Goals and Strategies
- 11) Staff Reports (9:00 p.m.)
 - a. Lake Minnewashta Park Aquatic Invasive Species Program
 - b. Lake Minnewashta Regional Park, TH 41 Trail Construction
 - c. Events and Activities
 - d. Onan Observatory
- 12) Commission Member Reports (8:50 p.m.)
- 13) Set Next Meeting Date (8:55 p.m.)
- 14) Adjourn Meeting (9:00 p.m.)

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



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DIRECTORS REPORT

June 13th, 2012

PARK COMMISSION MEETING

To: Members of the Park Commission
From: Martin Walsh, Parks Director
CC: Lyndon Robjent, County Engineer
Tim Lynch, County Commissioner
Date: 6/8/2012
Re: June 13th, 2012 Park Commission Meeting

New Business:

- A) Request to gate the Lake Bavaria Boat Access to Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

The Lake Bavaria Homeowners Association has made a request to have electronic gates installed at the public boat access on Lake Bavaria to provide protection against the spread of AIS.

Background

Carver County owns and operates the public boat access on Lake Bavaria.

In February, the Friends of Lake Bavaria (FLB) requested that an AIS inspection program be implemented at the boat access similar as what the County and Minnehaha Creek Watershed District provided at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park.

The Park Commission did not recommend approval of an inspection program at Lake Bavaria citing that the program at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park was a trial or pilot program.

Separate from the inspection program at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park, the County is providing AIS service at Bavaria, Waconia, Hydes and Reitz lakes. Funding for the inspections has been provided through a grant provided by the DNR and funds from the Carver County Land and Water Services Department. Generally, an inspector will be staffed at the Lake Bavaria access one 4 to 8 hour shift on a Saturday or Sunday each weekend during the summer.

Additional signage has been installed at the Lake Bavaria access reminding boaters to check, clean and drain their boats. A sign has also been installed indicating that boaters can voluntarily get free watercraft inspections at Lake Minnewashta Park. A map showing directions to Lake Minnewashta is included on the sign.

The 2012 Legislative Session has provided new law effective July 1, 2012. This legislation provides the Commissioner of the DNR with additional latitude to enter into agreements delegating inspection authority and allowing for inspection stations to be located near or at public water access sites or in locations that allow for the servicing of multiple waters.

Proposal

The request by the FLB for gated boat access would prevent boaters from accessing the boat launch area until they received an AIS inspection and access code. The proposal directs boaters that want to launch watercraft on Lake Bavaria to Lake Minnewashta Regional Park for an AIS inspection and access code before entering Lake Bavaria.

Restricting public access with an automated gate is proposed as an alternative to providing on site inspectors and as a potential means to be a more cost effective approach to providing inspection service at a regional or area basis as compared to each boat access having staffed inspectors.

The request by the FLB would have an effect beyond their members. Other users of the lake are largely unaware of the request for a gated access or have not had opportunity to voice support or oppose the request.

The request would imply additional costs or arrangements would be needed beyond the cost to install a gated access on the Lake. It is estimated that an electronic gated system with accompanying electric and utility lines may exceed \$25,000.

The new legislation which allows for aquatic invasive inspection stations also requires that a decontamination station be available or within a reasonable distance.

Potential costs of a decontamination unit or an agreement for decontamination would need to be included in with a proposal to gate the Lake Bavaria access. Additional costs for infrastructure may also be needed to expand an area in the park to provide suitable space or a fairly level area for a decontamination unit and boat inspections. Other needs would include a shelter to house staff and computer to provide access codes. Operational costs of providing decontamination staffing for decontamination are not currently calculated.

The request to gate the access at Lake Bavaria has implications which go beyond the cost to install gates at Lake Bavaria. These other implication include a need for a broader public involvement process, decontamination site selection or agreement for decontamination service, costs for infrastructure, capital equipment, operational costs and changes to operations at Lake Minnewashta Park. A more detailed analysis, plan, and public input would be needed to make a recommendation to provide an electronic gate system which would restrict watercraft from launching.

Recommendation:

- 1) Recommend additional aquatic invasive species measures above what is currently being offered not be considered for the 2012 season at Lake Bavaria.
- 2) Request the County Board at an upcoming workshop session provide direction to Park Commission and staff for aquatic invasive species inspection services to be offered by the County for 2013.

Attached to this report is a summary of Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Legislation that has been prepared by the Minnesota Department of Natural resources.

A) Recommendation to Issue Annual Vehicle Passes to County Board Members

County Board Members should feel comfortable accessing our County Park areas without the worry of not having a vehicle permit and risking possible patrol stops for permits while in our county parks. There are lots of programs, ongoing maintenance operations and construction projects that Board Members should have access too. Providing annual vehicle permits to Board Members is a way in which they would be properly identified in the park areas and reduces the need for explanations as to who they are at park entrance points. Additionally, should they be approached by the County Sheriff Deputies while in the park, they would be properly permitted.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Park Commission recommended each Board Member be issued two annual vehicle permits for their vehicles for the purposes of having access to County Park facilities.

Old Business:

B) 2013 Budget Request

2013 budget materials will be distributed at the meeting.

Recommendation: Approve the 2013 Parks and Recreation Operations and Capital Improvement Budget.

C) 2012-2013 Goals and Strategies

For the Commission's review and comment, a listing of 2012 activities, goals and strategies is provided as an attachment to this report.

Recommendation: The Commission should review and suggest priority of the activities, goals and strategies to help provide input and direction to staff.

Staff Reports

A) Lake Minnewashta Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program

Several recent articles have been published in the Star Tribune about the inspection program. The articles have been informative and generally positive in nature.

B) Lake Minnewashta Regional Park TH 41 Trail and Underpass Project

Construction activity of clearing wooded areas within the park boundary and along TH 41 is nearly complete. Installation of the retaining wall south of Lake Lucy Road is complete. Construction of the large retaining wall north of Lake Lucy Road is underway. Installation of culverts required for drainage has begun. Work to establish trail grade has begun near Picnic Shelter #3.

C) Events and activities:

Staff will report on past activities and report on upcoming programs:

- June 9th - National Get Outdoors Day and Family Campout at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park
- June 16th- Ride the Rail 10:00 a.m. at the Mayer Trailhead
- June 20-27 Archery Camp, Joint program with Chanhassen at Lake Susan
- June 23 Canoe 101 at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park

- June 25-28 Precious Resources Summer Day Camp
- July 1-Parent Child Archery Waconia Regional Park
- July 7 –Waconia Beach Party
- July 9th Camp Blast – Climbing Minnewashta Regional Park
- Family Archery Night – Minnewashta Regional Park

Volunteers are always needed and welcome at most of our events. Please let staff know if you are able to assist with an upcoming program or event.

D) Onan Observatory

Additional information was received pertaining to the Onan Observatory Site Plan and Buildings. Staff is reviewing the material and intends to report at the July 11, 2012.

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Legislation Summary

Laws of Minnesota 2012, Chapter 272

Prepared by: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
May 7th, 2012



Effective 7-1-2012, unless otherwise noted

This is a summary of new laws related to prevention and management of aquatic invasive species (AIS) that will apply to boaters, property owners, service providers, bait dealers and others involved with the transportation of water-related equipment.

Penalties

- Civil penalties/amounts are generally doubled from previous amounts
- Penalty amounts are doubled the base amount if one or more prior convictions or civil citations
- Failing to leave drain plug opened while transporting technical correction to civil citation penalty provision

Inspections

- DNR can require mandatory inspections of water-related equipment before a person places or removed equipment into/out of a water body
- Inspection stations can be located at or near public water access sites or in locations that allow for servicing multiple water bodies
- Commissioner shall ensure inspection stations: 1) have adequate staffing, 2) allow for reasonable travel time between accesses and inspection stations, 3) are located so as not to create traffic delays or public safety issues, 4) have decontamination equipment available, and 5) do not reduce capacity or hours of operation of public accesses.
- Commissioner may enter into delegation agreements with local or tribal government if local or tribal government assume all legal, financial, and administrative responsibility in their jurisdiction, and must:
 - 1) employ inspectors that have been trained/authorized by DNR, 2) conduct inspections and decontamination measures as approved by DNR, 3) have decontamination equipment available at inspection stations or within reasonable distance of inspection stations, 4) provide inspection stations that do not create traffic delays or public safety issues, 5) submit a plan approved by DNR with no reduction in capacity or hours of operation of public accesses, adequate staffing and enforcement capacity, 6) must submit an annual report to DNR, and 7) other requirements per section
- Allows conservation officers and other peace officers to require water-related equipment be removed from a water body if necessary to implement aquatic invasive species control measures.

Boating/Fishing

- Clarifying that a person may not launch any water-related equipment (was watercraft/trailer) into waters of the state with prohibited species attached
- Portable bait containers do not need to be drained when fishing through the ice, except when in VHS designated waters
- Requirement to attach AIS rules decal to boats is repealed (2011 legislation)
- Require anyone who transports watercraft or water-related equipment with a trailer to complete an online education course. After completing the course, the person will receive a decal that must be placed on their trailer, certifying they have taken the course. People taking the course can receive extra stickers if they own or use multiple trailers for watercraft or water-related equipment.
 - 7-day temporary can be requested by persons that have not completed the training
 - Decal must be adhered to side of the trailer frame tongue near the hitch
 - Decals are not transferable
 - Goes into effect 7/01/2015
 - Warnings only, no criminal penalty even after effective

Property Owners

- Boat lift, dock, swim raft, etc. removed from any water body may not be placed in another water body for at least 21 days

Service Providers

- Service providers definition includes service provided as a benefit of a yacht club, boat club, marina, or similar organization
- Service provider decals to be displayed on inside lower driver's side windshield

Bait Harvesting/ possession of bait

- Harvest of bait by hook and line from infested waters is allowed for bullheads, goldeyes, mooneyes, sheepshead (freshwater drum) and suckers with following conditions: 1) to be used for personal use ONLY; 2) used on the same body of water where caught and while still on that water body; 3) the bait/fish may not be transported live from or off that water body; 4) bait/fish meet all other size restrictions and requirements; and 5) bait/fish are included in any daily limits
- Possession/importation of dead bait from VHS waters must be preserved in a manner prescribed by the commissioner. Shipments need to have documentation showing water body source, lot number, company contact information (name, phone, address), date of packaging and labeling, and valid negative fish health certification for the water body/

For More Information Contact:

Jim Japs, Section Manager
Division of Ecological and Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
651-259-5656
jim.japs@state.mn.us

MAJ Phil Meier, Operations Manager
MNDNR, Division of Enforcement
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
651-259-5045
phil.meier@state.mn.us

Draft 2012-2013 GOALS, STRATEGIES AND INITIATIVES

March

<u>Goals/Initiatives</u> (by functional area)	<u>2012</u> <u>Priority</u> <u>H,M,L</u>	<u>Next Steps</u>	<u>Status</u> <u>Progress</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE			
<u>2013 Budget</u>		Budget Preparation	
<u>2014- 2018 CIP</u>		Develop Long-Term CIP Funding Plan	
<u>Meet with County Board</u>		Tour Regional Park Areas Develop Annual Report, Focus on the importance of Parks and Recreation ties, to public health, Education,.... Invite Board Members to Events, Activities	
** Interaction with Boards and Committees			
<u>City Council of Waconia</u>		Update on Progress, Seek Support for Boat Access Introduction, Review System, Meet and discuss Parks and Trails Funding Continue to discuss partnering on Boat Access Ground Breaking Ceremony Phase II DRT Ground Breaking Ceremony LMP TH 41 Acquisition of Land for SW Regional Trail	
<u>MPO/SC Representative</u>			
<u>Area Legislators</u>			
<u>DNR Officials</u>			
<u>City of New Germany</u>			
<u>City of Chanhassen</u>			
<u>City of Chaska</u>			
<u>Improve asset management with use of technology</u>		Research Asset Management Programs Request Budget to Support Software	
<u>Improve Customer Service/Park Operations</u>		Addressing and Signage of Park Buildings Develop New Recreation Programs Review Staffing Levels and Service Demands Determine if changes should be made to work schedules, increase in personnel What improvements can be made to online services, voice mails or other self help areas	
		Develop Goose Management Plan for LWP	

<u>Goals/Initiatives</u> (by functional area)	<u>2012</u> <u>Priority</u> H,M,L	<u>Next Steps</u>	<u>Status</u> <u>Progress</u>
<u>Revise and Update Priority Listing of Parks and Trails Funds From the Constitutional Amendment</u>		Current Projects: Dakota Rail, LMP TH 41 Trail, SW RT Union Pacific Rail Road, County Road 10 Pavement for LMP Road, LWP Playground	
<u>Improve Participation and Public Awareness Through Marketing</u>		Use of Social media, list serve Park Commissioners - staff at City Festivals? Continue with Quarterly Newsletter Improve awareness of special events and recreation programs through signage and flyers at regional park entrances and Kiosks	
<u>Collaborative Projects</u>		Meet -Use of Clean Water, Heritage, Parks @ Trails Funds	
<u>Land and Water Services/ Environmental</u>		Participate in SHIP Program	
<u>Public Health</u>		Employee Bike Ride, Fitness activity	
<u>County Wellness Committee</u>			
<u>Provide Safe and Respectful Park Areas Park Patrol</u>		Continue to Support CSO's Meet Sheriff, Jim Olson, and Commander Blair Anderson review service needs	
<u>Improve Access to Parks and Trails</u>		Work to resolve Co. Rd 10 Trail Connection	
<u>**Improve Park Funding</u>		Work to position County for Grant Opportunities, P & T, TE grants Attend Legislative and I. A. Meetings Develop Report for County Board, comparison of agency investments	

Goals/Initiatives (by functional area)	2012 Priority H,M,L	Next Steps	Status Progress
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<u>Develop Resource Information and Potential Measurable Outcomes</u> Employees per thousand Dollars expended per thousand Amount expended per residence		Analyze Past and Recent Survey Data to Determine Level of Support and Opportunity	
		Analyze and Compare CC. to Other Metro Parks Systems	
		Parks Systems and Surrounding Counties	
		Inform County Board of findings	

Attract and retain customers		Trail projects, Maintenance, New Park Programs	
		Advertisement, Press Releases	

PLANNING/ACQUISITION/DEVELOPMENT

<u>Development</u> Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Trail and Box culvert Installation Dakota Rail Regional Trail Phase II		Construct Trail	
		Construct Trail	

<u>Lake Waconia Regional Park</u> Memorial Forest Install Walking Trail Utilities		Have County Board Authorize Donation Program	
		As work allows, make minor improvements	
		Work with City of Waconia on Utility Plan for East Lake Development	

<u>Baylor Park</u> Storm water/Pond Improvement Beach		Develop plan to fill in pond and replant	
		Relocate Bridge	
		Evaluate beach use and demand for service	

<u>Southwest Regional Trail Connection</u>		Appraise Land needed	
		Work to acquire property	
		Develop Plans and Specifications	

<u>Goals/Initiatives</u> (by functional area)	<u>2012</u>		<u>Status</u> <u>Progress</u>
	<u>Priority</u> H, M, L	<u>Next Steps</u>	

Land Acquisition

Union Pacific Railroad (Chaska Ind. Lead)

Complete agreement with Cities and MCEES and Scott County

Southwest Regional Trail

County Road 10 Trail Connection

Order Appraisal, Work to Negotiate Sale Propose offer after Eminent Domain Settlement for Co. Rd 10

Work to acquire property within Lake Waconia Regional Park Boundary

Work on Legislative request for funds Continue Discussion with DNR on Partnering to acquire the Pauls Parcel

Coney Island

Stay in contact with Owner

Planning
Parks and Trails Applications

Natural Resource Restoration Projects

Identify project areas, LWP, LMP, BP, Crow

Master Plan Amendment to Include Coney Island

Continue Communication With Private Owner

Pilot Project for Alternative Development tract

As opportunity would present itself

Transportation Fund Grant Application

Develop future listing of projects

Prepare Plans for Future Projects

Trail connections -Chaska to Victoria

- LMP Road
- LMP, BP, LWP restoration - Prairie, Forest
- LMP Boat Access
- LMP Group Area
- LWP Phase 1 Construction Plan
- LMP Gate House/ visitor bldg. Relocation
- Southwest Regional Trail Connection

Other
Onan Observatory

Promote Observatory Through Special Events

Consideration for Additional Building(s)

<u>Goals/Initiatives</u> (by functional area)	2012		Status Progress
	<u>Priority</u> H,M,L	<u>Next Steps</u>	
Dakota Rail Line Stewardship Program			
Management of Leases		Convert leases to permits	
Maintenance Program		Continue minor maintenance	

Possible Tours

Lake Minnewashta Trail Construction
Dakota Rail Phase II Construction
Union Pacific Railroad Corridor
Carver Park Reserve
County Park Tour with Board Members

Select Possible Tours

Physically Challenged/Older
Continue with improvements

Re grade portions of trails at LMP
Budget Installation of Aggregate Pathways
at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park

VOLUNTEERISM INITIATIVES

Volunteer Program Initial Development

Send information out to volunteer
recruitment organization
Adopt A trail Program

Volunteer Opportunities

Arbor Day/Earth day
Buckthorn Removal/Containment

Continue Program
Continue Program