



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

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Division of Public Works

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Park Commission

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

6:30 p.m. Tour of Baylor Regional Park

8:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Baylor Regional Park, Visitor Center
10775 County Road 33,
Norwood Young America, MN 55397

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (8:00 p.m.)
- 2) Approval of the March 11, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes (8:01 p.m.)
- 3) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (8:02 p.m.)
- 4) Approval of Agenda (8:03 p.m.)
- 5) Commissioner Liaison Report (8:04 p.m.)
- 6) Open to the Public (8:10 p.m.)
- 7) New Business (8:15 p.m.)
 - a. Beach Water Testing
- 8) Staff Reports (8:40 p.m.)
 - a. Legislative Update
 - b. Aquatic Invasive Species 2015 Update
 - c. MN River Bluffs Regional Trail
 - d. Events and Activities
- 9) Commission Member Reports (8:50 p.m.)
- 10) Set Next Tour/Meeting Date (8:55 p.m.) – Proposed date May 13th
- 11) 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
March 11, 2015

Members Present: Carroll Aasen, Ron Trick, Tom Hermann, Gerald Bruner, Jim Boettcher, Jim Manders, Curt Kobilarcski, Commissioner Tim Lynch

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Connie Keller

Call to Order: Manders, called the meeting to order at **(6:32p.m.)**

Election of new officers, Chair and Vice Chair (6:32p.m.)

Manders opened up elections for Chair; Trick nominated Manders for Chair, Aasen second the motion, vote was taken all in favor; Manders is elected to serve as Chair.

Election of Vice Chair - Boettcher nominated Aasen for Vice Chair Manders seconds motion, Bruner would like to be considered, vote was taken six votes for Aasen; Aasen is elected to serve as Vice Chair.

Approval of Minutes: **(6:36p.m.)**

Aasen motioned to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2015 regular meeting minutes. Boettcher seconded the motion.
Motion passed 7 to 0.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: **(6:37p.m.)**

None

Approval of Agenda: **(6:37p.m.)**

Aasen motioned to approve meeting agenda, Trick seconded the motion.
Motion passed 7 to 0.

Commissioner Liaison Report: **(6:37p.m.)**

Commissioner wanted to express how excited and happy he was on the donation of Coney Island from the Hoffman family, feels that it is a great gift to the county, Coney Island has a great history.

Open to the Public: **(6:39 p.m.)**

Public Present
Doug Parkinson – in attendance for Park Side Church property.

New Business **(6:39p.m.)**

A. *Draft Park Land Preservation Policy & Permit Application Procedure*

Staff presented to the Park Commission information that was presented at previous meetings, looking for recommendation of approval of the draft and administrative permitting. Staff has not heard back from the attorney's office if the county code would need to be amended to include the additional permitting and application procedure language.

Staff would like it to go to the County Board in a workshop session and if the Board is ok with policy with no other revisions, then it would go to them in a regular session for approval of policy language.

Staff is looking for Park Commission to recommend approval of the Draft Land Protection Policy, recommend approval of the Parks Administrative Permitting & Board Authorized Permitting and Application Procedure subject to review and approval of the County Attorney's Office.

Aasen motioned to approve, Trick Second the Motion
Motion passed 7 to 0.

Question or Comments:

None

B. Lake Waconia Regional Park – Future Planning

Staff presented to Park Commission a PowerPoint on the planning process of updating Lake Waconia Park and advancement of the development of the park.

Items covered in the presentation:

Purpose – Advance development of Lake Waconia Regional Park; provide a foundation which we are all working from, gathering input on a process that moves us forward.

Background - Provide Natural Resource Based Recreation, Recreation activities tied to the natural resources; require land acreage to serve a regional scale audience.

Staff shared plan maps outlining the Initial Master Plan 1975, Acquisition Master Plan 1995, Development Master Plan 2000 plans. Staff explained the process and the timeline of the master plans for Lake Waconia Regional Park and the background on process and general concept layout for park development. Consideration for future master plans, do we include the ballroom in the plan, updating the plan to incorporate the larger sledding hill and uses for that in the future, the addition of Coney Island and how that would affect plans for the park and if there is other recreational demands that are wanted in the Park.

Staff reviewed new requirements of the Met Council Policy Plan for Regional Parks and how we will have to include that in any of our plans for Lake Waconia Regional Park and to make sure that we have them review our public engagement process before we move forward.

Staff asked the Park Commission if they are comfortable with the existing master plan, do you feel you have enough of a foundation to move forward to use this master plan as a guide. Staff stated that Coney Island will be on a separate track so we can complete the acquisition before the end of year and develop a master plan which then would be eligible for funding.

Next steps would be to meet with the County Board and maybe tour other facilities, develop a request for proposal and select a consultant. Public engagement process will need to be put together, getting comments from other focus groups (Churches, Schools, Community Ed) besides public open houses for input.

Staff will move forward with drafting a RFP and moving forward with working with consultant to helping us developing a master plan of Coney Island, which will tie in with the development of Lake Waconia Park.

Questions or Comments:

Bruner wanted to know why we are selling the property to the DNR and not developing it ourselves; Staff stated that we are being reimbursed from the DNR for the land and we would get that money right of way; if we did it ourselves it would take six funding cycles to be reimbursed through the Met Council and another point is that the DNR has offered to develop it and that takes the burden off the county and lets us focus on other development in the park.

Bruner asked where the funds go that the DNR pays; Staff stated that it goes back into the land acquisition account for the parks.

Bruner was wondering if the DNR has influence over the Park; Staff stated that we would have a joint powers agreement (JPA) agreement that would guide them and us with how the facility would operate into the future. The JPA provides the County with review and approval authority of plans, before they go forward.

Kobilarcski – stated it looks like a pretty positive agreement.

Manders asked if Carver Park Reserve is a Regional Park; Staff stated that it is a Regional Park Reserve over a 1000 acres in size and has a 80/20 rule that 80 percent has to be in undeveloped state, Regional Parks don't have that rule.

Kobilarcski asked if we have maximized the park boundaries; Staff stated that it is consistent with our comprehensive plan, maybe in the future adding property.

Lynch state that we come up with plans with and without the ballroom; Staff stated that would be a good idea.

Discussion was had on the use of the ballroom and if rebuilding something there would be an option.

Manders stated that he is comfortable with the plans, but how do we get public input and where do we start; Staff stated that planning process will take some time and if we use the master plan to move forward as a guide then we can go forward and not start from scratch.

Aasen stated the plan doesn't show the sledding hill; Staff stated that the original master plan discussed an informal sledding hill and not the size it is now.

Kobilarcski asked if this plan would be the base that we would show public; Staff stated we would need to alter the plan slightly to add sledding hill and ballroom facility.

Kobilarcski asked how did we get people to participate in the past; Staff stated by newspaper ad, and past planning members from the acquisition master plan.

No other questions or comments

New Member and Existing Member Orientation and Review of Carver County Regional Parks System (7:36 p.m.)

Staff presented to the Park Commission a PowerPoint on the overview and review of the Carver County Parks and Trails system.

Items Covered in presentation – the role of the Park Commission, role of Met Council and overview of Parks Staff

Other Items Covered - Overview of Parks, Trails, and facilities and services offered at each park, miscellaneous events held at the parks, projects happening now and comprehensive plans for the Parks and Trails in the future.

Questions and Comments:

Boettcher asked what the time frame was for finishing project at LMP; Staff stated hopefully by Memorial Day.

Staff Reports: (7:53 p.m.)

A. Legislative Update

Staff reviewed a bill about removing the ten million from AIS funding this year; staff was requested to testify on behalf of the County and what Carver County's program offers.

Other legislative news, Implementing Regional Park Agencies are attempting to get more funds for operations and maintenance of the Regional Parks. State funding for Regional Parks has been flat since 1986 and during that time period the growth of trails and parks has increased.

No Comments or Questions

C. Aquatic Invasive Species 2015 Update

Staff updated on the AIS services; the City of Chanhassen has asked the County to take on their inspections and County is working on a contract with them. We are currently advertising for AIS inspectors and looking to hire many inspectors.

No Questions and Comments

C. Coney Island – Charitable Pledge and Donation Agreement

The Hoffman's and the County have signed the charitable pledge and donation agreement, which gives us the opportunity to start developing a master plan. Once that is done then it would be eligible for funding. Staff explained the funding process used to purchase the property and the Hoffman's will donate back the funds to County for cleanup of island.

No Questions or Comments

D. MN River Bluffs Regional Trail

Plans are 90% complete; we have agreements that are close to being finalized with the MN Fish and Wildlife Services and the City of Carver. Still working on the small parcel that shows no owner, that is going through a emanate domain process and should be completed shortly.

No Questions of Comments

E. LWP Boat Access

The Board has signed the sales and JPA agreement.

No Questions of Comments

F. Events and Activities

Staff shared a list of all the events going on this summer and our Maple Syrup open house is on March 28th. Over 200+ students coming out this month for the Maple Syrup tours. Earth Day celebration coming up on April 25th, details to follow. Staff has been working on getting volunteers and having some success.

G. Park Tours

Discussion on summer tours of our parks and/or parks outside of the area. It was decided that April's meeting will take place at Baylor Regional Park.

If there is a desire to do more off site tours to places further away we may have to do that on the weekend.

No comments or questions

Commission Member Reports: (8:09 p.m.)

Bruner stated that he applied for the Parks and Trails Legacy Council, but was not picked to serve; Staff explained to other commission members what the Parks and Trails Legacy Council advises on the use of funds for Parks and Trails. The Council consists of past state DNR staff, past regional parks staff, different agencies in greater Minnesota and has a citizens.

Trick asked if there was anyone living in the house at Baylor; Staff stated there is no one living there and looking to repurpose the house.

Aasen stated that he was down at the legislation session and has been watching multiply AIS bills and has been watching the repeal bill and the rewording and how confusing it is.

Manders commented on the trails that were damage this past year by the heavy rains that are not Carver County trails was wondering if staff knew the time frame of repair on those trails. Staff stated that they would try and find out the status of repair of those trails.

Next Meeting Date: (8:20 p.m.)

Next meeting will be on April 8th, 2015 at 6:30pm meeting at Baylor Regional Park, Norwood Young America.

Adjourn Meeting: (8:21 p.m.)

Boettcher motioned to adjourn the meeting, Aasen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7 to 0.



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Memo

To: Members of the Carver County Park Commission
Cc: Martin Walsh
From: Sam Pertz
Date: 4/3/2015
Re: Water Monitoring/Testing Program – Regional Park, Beach Facilities

This memorandum is constructed for the purpose of consideration by the Park Commission to further direct staff to proceed with the pilot water monitoring/testing program for the 2015 beach season.

Background:

Currently, the Carver County Parks Department does not operate with a water monitoring program. Park staff is made aware through media and professional contacts of local and regional water quality issues at other local/regional beach locations. In recent beach seasons, the public has become more aware of water quality concerns and now desire information about the water quality at a beach. Park users have asked if the park department is monitoring water quality through testing, in part because it is common among many other park agencies throughout the metropolitan area.

2015 Pilot Program:

The 2015 beach season would be utilized to establish a base-line. After the 2015 season is over, a review of the monitoring methods and program would be conducted. Adjustments could be considered to enhance the program for future beach seasons.

- Beach Areas:
 - Each of the regional park beaches of: Baylor, Waconia, Minnewashta
- Timeframe for Monitoring:
 - Memorial Day thru Labor Day
 - Frequency - bi-weekly (approx. 8 collections per beach throughout program)
 - Day of week – TBD, conducted between 8:00am – 12:00pm
- Water Depth for Sampling:
 - Collection by “walking into water”
 - Distance out from shore - approximately 2’ or “knee deep”
 - Depth to collect - 8” to near surface level
- Number of Samples per Collection:
 - Two samples, positioned at either end of the beach (within the designated perimeter) at each location
- Sampling Device:
 - Sterile sample bottle - filled directly from the beach to minimize issues of contamination
- Indicator Organisms:
 - E. coli
- Lab Analysis Methods:
 - Membrane filtration

- Thresholds:
 - Single sample – 235 (CFU/100ml) for E. coli
 - 30-day/5 sample – 126 (CFU/100ml) over 30 days
- Beach Facility Operational Actions & Defining Criteria:
 - Single Sample
Operational Actions: resample (3 samples), post advisory signage, update website – beach area remains *OPEN*
 - 30-day/5 Sample
Operational Actions: resample (3 samples), post signage, update website & social media, inform local media outlets, communicate to County Board/Administration – beach area is *CLOSED*
 - * Defining criteria for both samples: Two consecutive single-sample thresholds exceeded or 30-day/5 sample threshold exceeded
- Reopening Defining Criteria:
 - Indicator organism level falls below threshold(s)

Additional Information:

Park staff is working with the County Environmental Services Office to assist in the pilot monitoring program. It is likely staff from Environmental Services would aid in the sample collection and submission process throughout the duration of the program. Environmental Services staff has also recommended a 3rd party agency for the sample analysis, which they use for their own water testing efforts. Estimated cost to this pilot program (as described) is \$1,000.00.

Recommendation:

It is requested the Park Commission conduct discussion around this proposal and take action on directing staff to proceed as outlined, or take further consideration.