



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

Park Commission

Tour and Meeting Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Carver Park Reserve, 7025 Victoria Drive, Victoria, MN, 55386

**Tour 6:00 P.M., Bus Departs from Carver Park Reserve
to Lake Minnetonka Regional Park**

Returning to Carver Park Reserve, Lowery Nature Center 8:00 p.m.

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (8:00 p.m.)
- 2) Approval of the May 14, 2014 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 (8:12)
 - a. 2015 Budget Discussions
 - i. 2015 Operation Budget
 - ii. CIP Review
 - b. Request to Launch Fireworks from Lake Waconia Regional Park
- 8) Discussion (8:30 p.m.)
 - a. Trail Connection to Lake Minnewashta Regional Park from Hermann Park
- 9) Staff Reports (8:45 p.m.)
 - a. 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan
 - b. Lake Minnewashta Roads and Parking Lot Project
 - c. MN River Bluffs RT
 - d. Legislative Update
 - i. Regional Park Funding
 - ii. Aquatic Invasive Species Update
 - e. Events and Activities
- 10) Commission Member Reports (8:55 p.m.)
- 11) Set Next Meeting Date (8:58 p.m.)
- 12) 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 14, 2014

Members Present: Carroll Aasen, Ron Trick, Tom Hermann, Jim Manders, Gerald Bruner, Jim Boettcher, Josh Ives

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Sam Pertz, Connie Keller

Tour of Lake Minnewashta: (6:15pm - 7:45pm)

Staff took Park Commission members on tour of Lake Minnewashta Park, touring off leash dog area, front gate area, boat launch area, shelter #5, shelter #3, playground and beach areas.

CALL TO ORDER: Bruner as Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:48p.m.

Nomination and Election of Officers: (7:51pm)

Bruner opened up nominations for Chair, Trick nominates Manders and Boettcher nominates Aasen for Parks Commission Chair, no other nominates. Vote was taken three votes for Aasen and four votes for Manders. Manders is elected new Chair for park commission.

Manders takes over running the Park Commission meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (7:53p.m.)

Manders motioned to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2014 regular meeting minutes. Trick seconded the motion.
Motion passed 7 to 0.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: (7:53p.m.)

Manders asked to add the discussion of adding the optional connection from Lake Minnewashta to Herman Field, will be added to new business for a future meeting

AGENDA: (7:54p.m.)

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

Commissioner Liaison Report: (7:54p.m.)

None

Open to the Public: (7:54 p.m.)

None Present

New Business: (7:55PM)

A. *Contracted Service for Recreation Rental Equipment*

Justin Ratzlaff is the owner of Spokes Bike Shop based in St. Boni, he presented to the Park Commission about his business and their desire to start a pilot program to partner with the Parks Department in offering recreational watersport items for rent on weekends at Lake Waconia and Lake Minnewashta for the 2014 season. They are proposing to rent paddle boards and kayaks from the beaches for the summer months. A portion of revenue from rentals would come back to the park; in-turn the park would help promote the rentals with advertising, etc.

Questions and comments:

Boettcher asked what hours rentals would be available; Ratliff commented that they would be renting only on weekends Saturdays at Lake Waconia Park and Sundays at Lake Minnewashta Park, or flip flop days according to need. We are not sure on the need at either park.

Bruner asks how they get the equipment to the park; Ratzlaff states that they have a self-contained unit that houses all there equipment.

Staff asks if this is strictly rentals or if they will be doing lessons; Ratzlaff states that this strictly rentals, at this time we are just trying to see what the public wants.

Boettcher what type of advertising would you have; Staff commented that we would do advertising on our own website and other areas, Ratzlaff also stated they would advertise on their own website and social media sites.

Bruner would revenue come back to the parks; Ratzlaff commented that we are working with Parks Staff to outline the amount that would come back to county, Staff stated that the county would get a portion of rental revenue, and each year that we use the service we would increase that portion back to the county.

Trick would we need more county employees for this; Ratzlaff stated that the rentals would be handled by Spokes employees and not county employees.

Manders asked is anyone else doing this in the area; Ratzlaff said in Wayzata and Excelsior there are some rentals.

Ives asked would you be branded different then county employees; Ratzlaff stated they would have their own clothing for their employees.

Bruner how poplar are these rental items; Ratzlaff stated that he is hoping very popular, he is hoping that they have a good response to the rentals. There seems to be a big interest in the community for this type of things.

Boettcher asked if his insurance covered this rental activity; Ratzlaff stated that their insurance meets county insurance requirements, Bruner asked if customers have to sign a waiver; Ratzlaff states that everyone would need to sign waiver before they could rent releasing Spokes and County from liability.

Aasen asks what if someone else comes in wanting to do the same thing; Staff stated at this point Spokes is the first to approach us on the idea, we may end up doing a 3 year contract if it is something that goes well.

No other comments or questions

Aasen motions that they move ahead and approve the rental of equipment at the parks, Trick seconds the motion. Motion passed 7 to 0

Discussion: (8:13p.m.)

A. Development Plan for Lake Waconia Regional Park –

Staff presented to the Park Commission the development plan for Lake Waconia Park that was created in 2001. Staff feels that the plan provides good guidance for moving ahead with a more detailed facility development and land stewardship plan however, there are needs to further refine the vision for the park and seek stakeholder consensus from the Park Commission, County Board, Staff, area agencies and public.

Staff is looking from the Park Commission to be able to hire a consultant service to define a process for stakeholder engagement, develop more detailed renderings, layout of facilities, connection to natural areas, changes and emerging trends for the development plan of Waconia Regional Park.

Questions or Comments:

Manders commented that Hwy 5 wasn't built when the original master plan was developed, example of the sledding hill, we didn't know we would get this space and land and all the dirt to build what we have now. Thinks it is a good idea that we are looking at it again.

Staff recommends that we hire a firm to come up with an artistic design for the park.

Ives thinks that would be a good idea

Boetcher – how many stages would it take to complete; Staff it would ultimately be in many phases, fair amount of engineering work.

Boetcher would this be something that is bid out; Staff would like to go back to initial design group and have them redo plans with what we have going on now with higher quality renderings of park space and building designs. Hermann is there a time line for sewer and water coming through the park: Staff no real timeline, but the Met Council is looking at it for as early as next year. We have asked them for other alternatives for coming through the park and they have presented several options.

Discussion ensued on were Met Council would like to put sewer lines and were County would like to put lines.

Bruner would it be county expense to connect to the sewer line, Staff yes the county would have the expense to hook into the line.

Manders is what we looking for tonight is a recommendation to hire consultants; Staff is asking that the Park Commission recommends to the County Board, that consultant services be solicited to define a process for stakeholder engagement, the development or conceptual renderings, layout of facilities, connection to natural areas, changes and emerging trends for the development plan of Waconia Regional Park.

Boetcher motions for approval, Aasen Seconds the motion
Motion passes 7 to 0

B. 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan – Equity Policy Language –

Staff discussed that the Metropolitan Council is in the process of updating its Parks Trails and Open Space Policy Plan. Part of the plan is a new component to the plan dealing in equitable distribution of parks aimed to strengthen equitable usage of the Regional Park System across race, age, ethnicities, classes, abilities and immigrant status.

Staff stated that the Regional Park implementing Agencies are supportive of equitable distribution of services, but have some concerns with some of the draft language. The agencies want the Met Council help them understand how they should delivery these services and how to attract different users.

A discussion was had on the concerns for this policy; Staff stated that the language in policy is troublesome for all.

No action is required by Park Commission, just an update.

Old Business: (8:54p.m.)

A. 2015 Budget

i. CIP

Due to meeting length the 2015 CIP was not covered at this Meeting

B. Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Road and Parking Lot Project-

Staff and Park Commission toured and talked about the paving project. Staff is recommending that we structure the bid with a number of added alternates which would allow us flexibility with contract but remain within budget.

The Base bid would include the main park road and bypass lane, and the alternates would include, boat access (grading, paving), paving off-leash dog area, paving shop parking lot. An additional bid alternate would be to allow work to be completed in 2015.

Herman motioned to recommend, Trick seconded all in favor
Motion passed 7 to 0

New Business Continued (9:00p.m.)

A. Proposed Change to Park Operation Hours -

Staff presented to Park commission local park hours, staff is looking to have more consistent hours and recommends that the Parks hours be from 6:00am – 10:00pm, with the exception of Lake Minnewashta opening from 5:00am – 10:00pm from fishing opener to September 15th.

Bruner asked if everyone in the parks have paid the fee; Staff yes the majority of people pay, the sheriffs does go through the park to check periodically.

Aasen motions to recommend, Boettcher seconded all in favor
Motion passed 7 to 0

B. Boy Scout request for BB Guns at Lake Minnewashta Park -

Park staff is looking for Park Commission approval to allow Boy Scout group to use BB guns at Lake Minnewashta for a one day scouting event. Request has been approved in past years.

Trick motions to recommend, Hermann seconded all in favor
Motion passed 7 to 0

Staff Reports (9:04p.m.)

Events and Activities:

- Full moon family canoe at Lake Minnewashta going on tonight
- Garlic Mustard Invasive Species removal volunteer event on May 17th
- Family full moon canoe at Baylor park on May 17th
- Arbor Day tree planting, Baylor Campground May 20th
- Parent/Child beginner archery Series in June

Bike Konnect event will be taking place on June 21st and looking for volunteers if any of the Park Commission would like to help. Volunteers are needed to help mark the bike route, setup equipment, etc. Contact Sam if interested!

Staff commented that we scored well on the federal funding for the trail connections in Lake Minnetonka Trail (Victoria) and MN River Bluff Trail; funds should be available in 2017 for the MN River Bluffs Trail.

Legislative update - Regional funding that we get from State and Met Council will be at an all-time low for capital projects, which means dollars the County has used to buy land in advance of regional funding will get paid back at a slower rate.

Other Items – The Parks and Trails funds that we allocated for the trail connection from Chaska to Carver on the former Union Pacific rail line, have been reallocated to the Lake Minnewashta road and parking lot project. We also will receive dollars to help hire a full time programmer/volunteer coordinator.

County Road 10 Bridge project over the Dakota Rail Corridor, the County will likely purchase the 10 acres to make the trail connection from Hwy 10 to the Dakota Rail Trail; will also include a parking facility at that location. Some of the 10 acres will be used for dirt disposal and wet land credits.

No other comments or questions.

Commission Member Reports: (9:12p.m.)

Aason attended a workshop talking about pollution getting into lakes and water supply, was very interesting. Also stated that the Executive Director of the Minnehaha Watershed District had been released. Wondering if this will put wrench into the AIS inspections.

No other comments

Next Meeting Date: (9:14p.m.)

Next meeting will be on June 11th, 2014 at 6:00pm at meeting at Carver Park Reserve or meeting at Carver County Public Works building in Cologne at 5:30pm for bus ride over to Carver Park Reserve.

Adjourn Meeting: (9:18p.m.)

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