



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

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Division of Public Works

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Park Commission

Tour and Meeting Wednesday, August 13, 2014

Tour

6:30 p.m., Arrive at Lake Waconia Regional Park Parking Lot

7:30 Regular Meeting
Lake Waconia Regional Park Picnic Shelter
8170 Paradise Lane, Waconia MN 55387.

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (7:30 p.m.)
- 2) Approval of the July 9, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes (7:31 p.m.)
- 3) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (7:32 p.m.)
- 4) Approval of Agenda (7:33 p.m.)
- 5) Commissioner Liaison Report (7:34 p.m.)
- 6) Open to the Public (7:40 p.m.)
- 7) Old Business (7:45 p.m.)
 - a. 2015 Operation and Maintenance Budget
 - b. 2015 CIP
- 8) New Business (8:05 p.m.)
 - i. 2040 Regional Park Policy Plan
- 9) Staff Reports (8:20 p.m.)
 - a. Update on Aquatic Invasive Species Program
 - b. Lake Minnewashta Roads and Parking Lot Project
 - c. MN River Bluffs RT
 - d. Events and Activities
- 10) Commission Member Reports (8:45 p.m.)
- 11) Set Next Meeting Date (8:50 p.m.) – Proposed date September 3rd
- 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 July 9, 2014

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

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Sam Pertz, Connie Keller

Tour of MN River Bluff Extension Regional Trail and Rapids Lake Visitor Center: (6:00pm – 7:30pm)

Staff took the Park Commission on a bus tour of the MN River Bluff Extension trail starting at Athletic Park in Chaska to Carver, explaining on the way the plans for the trail paving project. Commission Members and Staff then proceeded to Raids Lake Visitor Center of the USFW where they were meet by Kris Kane of the Rapids Lake Visitor Center. Mr. Kane explained the background of the visitor center taking us on a tour of the facility.

CALL TO ORDER: Manders, called the meeting to order at 7:32p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (7:32p.m.)
Aasen motioned to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2014 regular meeting minutes. Boettcher seconded the motion.
Motion passed 6 to 0.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: (7:32p.m.)
None.

AGENDA: (7:32p.m.)
Trick motioned to approve meeting agenda, Bruner seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 to 0.

Commissioner Liaison Report: (7:33p.m.)
None

Open to the Public: (7:33 p.m.)
None Present

Old Business: (7:33p.m)

A. 2015 Operation and Maintenance Budget

Staff Presented to Park Commission the budget narrative for reasoning behind the 2015 budgeted amounts and reasons behind revenue sources.

The narrative included:

- Revenue total and expenditures for the last 3 years.
- Park Department Staffing, seasonal and year round staff.
- Intergovernmental Revenue
- Intergovernmental Capital Improvements
- Intergovernmental Revenue Parks and Trails
- Revenue from Park Fees

- Operating Expenses
- Capital Improvements (maintenance equipment, land acquisition, preliminary engineering and design/professional consulting services, extension of MN River Bluffs Regional Trail, County Rd 10 Trail connection.)
- Site and Grounds Improvements (maintenance and repair items to concrete, pavement surfaces at picnic shelters, restrooms, roadways and parking lots.)
- Department Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures
- Challenges with continue growth with more Regional Trails and with increased guests in the parks one of the challenges is having adequate security from the Sheriff's department. Also the delivery of the AIS program which has grown to be the largest program outside the park maintenance within the Parks Department.

Staff also reviewed the numbers for the 2015 budget with the park commission, pointing out some slight increase of certain line items on budget sheet.

Staff is not looking at a motion to approve the budget at this time.

Comments and Questions:

Trick asked why the Caretaker arrangement is going to change; Staff stated that employee relations is not comfortable on the arrangement that we currently have and we are moving to a hired position for caretaker services.

Bruner asked about the rental of canoe and kayak rentals at Lake Waconia and Lake Minnewashta; Staff stated the rentals are not up and running yet that they are still working with Spokes on an agreement, hope to implement something for remainder of summer.

No other questions or comments

New Business: (8:00p.m.)

A. 2015 - 2019 CIP

Staffs presented to Park Commission a list of items on the Capital Projects by Department, Items on the list are for the 2014 or 2015 and beyond. Some items on list consist of commercial riding mower, trucks, planning, design and engineering costs, electronic gate system for Baylor Park, groomer, pavement management, miscellaneous building repairs, etc.

Bruner asked about cost of equipment and a discussion was had on cost of a commercial lawn mower and groomer on the list and reasoning behind some of the cost of certain equipment.

Discussion had on the future of Coney Island in Waconia.

The list will be presented to the County Board for consideration in 2015 budget, whatever doesn't get approved will move to the next year.

Comments and Questions:

Manders asked what the Aggregate Trail item was at Lake Minnewashta; Staff stated that is for aggregated rock to help to try and level out the trails from erosion and washout and to make a more level surface to help with grooming of trails in winter.

B. 2040 Draft Regional Parks Policy Plan

Staff presented to Park Commission very large red-lined document outlining the proposed Regional Parks Policy for all Regional Park; Staff is planning on reading the document and sharing the main points of the document with the Park Commission.

Comments and Questions:

Aasen stated that the Star Tribune had an article on pushing this plan forward.

Staff Reports: (8:26p.m.)

A. Potential Sale of Property to the DNR for Public Water Access

Staff presented to the park commission a proposal of the DNR boat launch at Lake Waconia Regional Park. DNR would own property inside the park boundary; they would develop the boat launch, parking lot. Parks would maintain the grounds around the launch. There would not be a charge to use the boat launch even though it is within the park, unlike Lake Minnewashta Park.

Staff presented to park commission the DNR offer asking for a discount to the DNR; Staff presented the numbers with a discount and no discount for a purchase of the property. The County will go through a process to get to a purchase price for the property with the DNR and at this time the County is not at a point to honor the discount. Staff stated it is good news and hopefully we can have something in place by the end of this year.

Questions or Comments:

Manders asked about the 25% match for the sale of the property; Staff explained how the number was achieved .

B. Update of Aquatic Invasive Species Program-

Staff presented that June was a hard month with high water issues on the lakes and small staffing issues. No zebra mussels have found thus far inbound or outbound.

A big change is the level of funding to be received from county program AIS aid to be received from the State. For 2015 funds may be used for technology upgrades or hiring a full time person to run this program, and signage at the lakes. A lot of work is coming in 2015 to understand what is going to be expected of us. There is a workshop session coming up in the coming weeks for planning into the future. We should have a clearer picture on the vision on what to expect in the future for inspections. Some of the topics will be is adding additional lakes for inspections, adding the tagging system for boats, centralized inspections services.

Discussion was had on the different services for the AIS inspection program.

Questions and Comments:

Hermann asked if we have gotten any reports from the DNR how lakes are doing that have zebra mussels; Staff does get that information in the spring during their training.

Boettcher was wondering if workshop is open to public; Staff stated that the meeting is open starts at 9:00am.

C. Trail Connection to Hermann Park

Staff contacted the City of Chanhassen about the trail in Hermann Park and they stated as long as the County wasn't going to add additional infrastructure to parks they didn't think there is a need to change what is already there with the informal connection into the park. Unless the County or the City of Chanhassen starts getting calls to

change what is there now, it will stay as it is, not to say that we wouldn't look at it again in the future if plans change to pave trail in this area of the park.

Questions or Comments:

Manders – commented that the loop trails seems to be attractive; Staff stated that they thought with the upgraded trail on Hwy 41 with the crossing, seemed to be suitable.

D. Lake Minnewashta Roads and Parking Lot Project

County Board has authorized the parks to go forward with going out for bid for project; hopefully we starting advertising for bids by the end of July with bids coming in by August.

E. MN River Bluffs Regional Trail

Discussion on trail was had during tour of the MN River Bluffs Regional Trail

F. Events and Activities - Presented on bus during trail tour

Staff updated Commission on June day camps and events, everything went really well. Bike Konnect went really well we had 260 people came out, big effort with City of Victoria and City of Chaska. Good feedback from the event, maybe doing it annually. July is equally busy with more day camps. Revenues are down slightly, but parks are busy. Firework shows went off without any issues.

Chili cook off is coming in October at Baylor Campground!

Commission Member Reports: (8:55p.m.)

Manders commented on last month's tour of Lake Minnetonka and Carver Park tour looking for park concept plans. He visited Staring Lake Park in Eden Prairie and he liked how the park is laid out and maybe it would work at Lake Waconia Park for a concept plan.

Trick commented that his grandkids went to the Baylor Park day camp and really enjoyed it.

Next Meeting Date: (8:57p.m.)

Next meeting will be on August 13th, 2014 at 6:30pm meeting at Lake Waconia Park.

Adjourn Meeting: (9:01p.m.)

Trick motioned to adjourn the meeting, Bruner seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 to 0.