



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

Meeting Wednesday, September 3, 2014

7:00 Regular Meeting
Carver County Public Works
11360 Hwy 212, Cologne, MN 55322

Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (7:00 p.m.)
- 2) Approval of the August 13, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes (7:01 p.m.)
- 3) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (7:02 p.m.)
- 4) Approval of Agenda (7:03 p.m.)
- 5) Commissioner Liaison Report (7:04 p.m.)
- 6) Open to the Public (7:05 p.m.)
- 7) Old Business (7:10 p.m.)
 - a. 2040 Regional Park Policy Plan
- 8) New Business (7:30 p.m.)
 - a. Lake Minnewashta Park Road and Parking Lot Improvements
- 9) Staff Reports (8:00 p.m.)
 - a. Update on Aquatic Invasive Species Program Update
 - b. MN River Bluffs RT
 - c. Events and Activities
- 10) Commission Member Reports (8:15 p.m.)
- 11) Set Next Meeting Date (8:20 p.m.) – Proposed date October 8th
- 12) Adjourn Meeting (8:25 p.m.)

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

Draft Meeting Minutes August 13, 2014

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

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Sam Pertz, Connie Keller

Tour of Lake Waconia Regional Park: (6:30pm - 7:30pm)

Staff presented to the Park Commission plans of the Lake Waconia Regional Park which showed concepts plans for Lake Waconia Regional Park. After reviewing the plans Staff and Commission toured the park, the top of sledding hill, the area over by the Church property and the area that the DNR is considering for potential boat launch.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (7:32p.m.)
Boettcher motioned to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2014 regular meeting minutes. Trick seconded the motion.
Motion passed 6 to 0.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: (7:32p.m.)
Aasen would like to add to new business - Minnehaha Watershed Grant program

AGENDA: (7:33p.m.)
Trick motioned to approve meeting agenda, Bruner seconded the motion.
Motion passed 6 to 0.

Commissioner Liaison Report: (7:33p.m.)

Commissioner Lynch did not have a report.

Open to the Public: (7:34 p.m.)
None Present

Old Business: (7:34p.m)

A. 2015 Operation and Maintenance Budget

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

The narrative included revised amounts and data for:

- Revenue total and expenditures for the last 3 years.
- Park Department Staffing, seasonal and year round staff – More staffing hours for park counts, going away caretaker position and implementing a campground attendant at Baylor Park ,moving away from caretaker position at Lake Minnewashta in 2015/2016 and seasonal staff for Sam’s programs.
- Intergovernmental Revenue for operating and maintenance funding will increase due to more people coming to the parks.

- Intergovernmental Capital Improvements
- Intergovernmental Revenue Parks and Trails – increase over previous years
- Revenue from Park Fees will increase to help offset more staffing.
- Operating Expenses – the 2015 AIS program will get additional funding to offset costs for ongoing inspections.
- Capital Improvements (land acquisition, preliminary engineering and design/professional consulting services, Construction extension of MN River Bluffs Regional Trail, County Rd 10 Trail connection.)
- Department Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures
 - Complete any unfinished work in relation to construction of roads and parking lots at LMP
 - Complete construction plans for MN River Bluffs Regional Trail
 - Complete trail connection from County Rd 10 to Dakota Rail Regional Trail
 - Complete site and grounds improvement projects – small maintenance projects.
- Challenges include 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. The AIS program has grown to be the largest program outside the park maintenance within the Parks Department. Additional challenge relates to increased capital improvement projects.

Comments and Questions:

Boettcher asked how long does the State AIS money last; Staff indefinitely or until someone removes it.

No other questions or comments

B. 2015 CIP

Staffs presented to Park Commission a list of Capital Projects by Fund for 2015. Staff reviewed upcoming projects for dollars in 2014 (Lake Minnewashta paving project) and funds requested in 2015 for MN River Bluffs and CR10/Dakota Rail Trail. Also budgeted on the sheet was a pickup for 2015.

Staff will present in January a final report.

New Business: (7:58p.m.)

A. 2040 Draft Regional Parks Policy Plan

Staff gave an overview of the 2040 draft policy plan; staff stated that the Metropolitan Council is in the process of revising the Regional Parks Policy Plan. The principle of the Metropolitan Council's Regional Park Policy Plan is that the components of the system are based on high quality natural resources in order to provide for the recreational enjoyment of the public.

Staff reviewed the policy and presented some of the highlights of the document

- The revised policy plan is not a total redo of previous policies for the Regional Park System
- The policy plan follows Thrive 2040 principles, particularly new element of equity
 - Set aside competitive grant program, portion of Council Bonds
 - Review of projects through an equity lens, prioritize projects
 - Shift from growth to equity distribution
 - Bridging facilities – assist with the introduction into a specialized recreation activity to increase participation
 - Community engagement process mitigate existing racial & ethnic barriers, include diverse populations - age, race, abilities
 - Criteria for equity lens to be developed in 2015 - no clear definition

Staff also presented items mapped in the draft policy plan: Existing National, Federal, State lands of the region

- Park Reserves open to the public
- Regional Trails open to the public

- Special Recreation Features – examples Como Park, Gale woods farm, etc....
- Regional Park System Facilities open to the public
- Planned Regional Park and trails not yet open to the public
- Regional Park search areas and boundary adjustments
- Regional Trail search corridor map
- Metropolitan Regional Park system - 2010
- Additions to the Regional Park System – Carver County and Three Rivers were the only ones that requested additions
 - Systems revisions include Carver County requests for the TH 41 and County Rd 61 trails.
- Metropolitan Regional Park System Plan – system additions 2010 and 2012
 - Consistent with County’s comprehensive plan
- 2040 Regional Parks system plan
- Regional bicycle transportation network
- Stronger emphasis on bicycle transportation network and connections to transit
 - Likely to impact grant scoring – Met council is showing need in core Metro area and less emphasis in suburban areas outside of the 494 beltway .
- Primary service area is 75% of where visitors come from
 - Understanding park service areas will be key to addressing equity distribution

Comments and Questions:

Manders, this policy talks about 2040 is this a objective date for when they have it all resolved; Staff stated that every ten years they revise this document.

Staff hopes to have a recommendation at the next meeting.

No other comments or questions

B. Added Item - Minnehaha Watershed Grants

Park Commission member Aasen wanted to make aware that the Minnehaha will be accepting grant applications for up to \$25,000 for clean water grants; he wonders if this is something that we could apply for with the upgrades for the boat launch at Lake Minnewashta Park to help pay for some of this; Staff did say that we may be eligible for some funding and we will be making an application for some of those funds.

Comments and Questions:

None

Staff Reports: (8:21p.m.)

A. Update on Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Staff presented to the Park Commission a copy of the power point presentation that was presented to the Carver County Board work session on AIS Services.

Questions or Comments:

Boettcher asked if the funds in Model D were broken down to determine how much each city would get for their lakes; Staff no they have not done that.

Aasen asked for an update on findings at LMP; Staff stated that after the findings on the outbound boat, the watershed district did an extensive water inspection of the lake and they didn’t find any signs of zebra mussels. DNR makes the final statement if the water body is affected; they state that Lake Minnewashta is zebra mussel free. Staff also stated that all five of the mussel reports at lakes in Carver County are boats that have come from Lake Minnetonka. AIS inspections will conclude on September 14th.

No other comments or questions

B. Lake Minnewashta Roads and Parking Lot Project

Staff updated commission that bids are due on August 28th and it is being bid with several different options, staff will explain at next meeting the options for getting the work done and getting the project to move forward.

Questions and Comments:

None

C. MN River Bluffs Regional Trail

Staff presented a draft proposed trail head facility in the City of Carver at Depot Park the facility is starting to take shape; we are working on getting permits in-line; we need to visit with the US Fish and Wildlife Service which might be a challenge. We will need to do full wetland delineation even though what we are proposing isn't very substantial.

Questions or Comments:

Boettcher asked if the draft proposed parking lot is the area we looked at when we did the site tour in July; Staff stated it is what they looked at.

D. Events and Activities

Chili cook off is coming in October at Baylor Campground! Looking for Judges, photographer!

Our summer programs have gone really well.

Programming is becoming more sustainable.

Staff will provide program participation numbers in October.

HIT's triathlon will be holding a series of events this weekend at Lake Waconia Park, they are hoping for up to 200 participants for this first year, will also be using a portion of the Dakota Rail Trail.

Commission Member Reports: (8:45p.m.)

Manders had a quick observation of the trail project on Hwy 5, and questioned if it was a County project or a Victoria project; Staff stated that it is entirely a Victoria project.

Next Meeting Date: (8:46p.m.)

Next meeting will be on **September 3, 2014 at 7:00pm** meeting at Public Works Building in Cologne

Adjourn Meeting: (8:47p.m.)

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