



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

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

Baylor Regional Park
10775 County Road 33, Norwood Young America, MN 55397

6:30 P.M. Park Tour

Meet at the Visitor Center (Barn)

Regular Meeting 7:45 p.m.

Agenda

- 1) Call Regular Meeting to Order (7:45 p.m. at the Picnic Shelter)
- 2) Roll Call (7:45 p.m.)
- 3) Approval of the June 10, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes (7:46 p.m.)
- 4) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (7:47 p.m.)
- 5) Approval of Agenda (7:48 p.m.)
- 6) Commissioner Liaison Report (7:49 p.m.)
- 7) Open to the Public (7:55 p.m.)
- 8) New Business (8:00 p.m.)
 - a. 2010 Budget (Handouts to be provided at meeting)
 - i. Operations
 - ii. CIP
- 9) Old Business (8:30)
 - a. 2030 Comprehensive Plan (Mapping work to be provided at meeting)
- 10) Staff Reports (9:00 p.m.)
 - a. Events, Activities, (Jenifer Felton, Park Intern)
 - b. Regional Park Foundation Update (Marty)
- 11) Commission Member Reports (9:05 p.m.)
- 12) Set Next Meeting Date (9:10 p.m.)
 - a. Summer Park Tour Location
- 13) Adjourn Meeting (9:15 p.m.)

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

Draft Minutes

June 10th, 2009 Regular Meeting

Members Present: Neil Wingert, Jeff Conkling, Myron Karki, Jerald Moja, Richard Tieden, Gail Von Bargaen

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Lenny Klevan Schmitz

Public Present: Carol Dunsmore, Leslie O'Halloran, Leigh Harrod, Terry Thelemann

CALL TO ORDER - Wingert called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

MINUTES - Karki motioned to approve the May minutes. Moja seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

AGENDA- Karki motioned to approve the agenda. Conkling seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

LIAISON REPORT- N/A

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC-

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Formation of Equestrian Trails Committee

Walsh reported that he had met with the County Board during a work session to discuss creating the subcommittee of the park commission. The County Board did not object to the idea of a subcommittee with representation from the park commission, equestrian community and staff.

Walsh recommended that the committee consist of 5 to 9 members excluding staff. The park commission should decide on a work program to provide direction to the subcommittee. The work program may include the following:

- Inventory and provide analysis of existing trails in the county and those trails in close proximity
- Obtain data on usage of horse trails
- Make site visits to several equestrian trails
- Meet with agency representatives about horse trails to gain better understanding of issues, use of and sustainability of equestrian trails
- Develop criteria which would help to identify possible future equestrian trails
- Set a timeline for work to be completed and report back to the park commission

Richard Tieden and Myron Karki each volunteered to represent the

park commission on the subcommittee. There was a discussion about how members of the public should be selected for the committee. It was recommended that staff would solicit for volunteers via press releases, Carver County Website and word of mouth through the equestrian community. Those interested in applying to be on the subcommittee will be asked to fill out an application similar to that required for the Parks Commission. It was also recommended that the applications could be reviewed by a small group consisting of a staff person, a couple members of the park commission and a member of the equestrian community who has been involved with the discussions since December. It was suggested by those present that Carol Dunsmore represent the Equestrian Community in selecting members for the subcommittee.

Based on the time to solicit for volunteers, select the members for the subcommittee and present the information to the County Board for approval the first meeting would be around the end of August or beginning of September.

b. Metropolitan Council CIP Submittal

Walsh reported that at the May 26, County Board Workshop Session the Metropolitan Council CIP Submittal for regional parks was briefly discussed. Past practice of the County Board has been to submit for reimbursement of County funds which advanced funded land acquisition at Lake Waconia Regional Park. It was mentioned that the County could choose to fund other projects if it desired consistent with approved park master plans or choose to seek some reimbursement and fund some development or redevelopment projects.

Possible projects which might be considered include:

- Sewer system for Lake Waconia Regional Park
- Pavement of roads at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park
- Reconstruction of visitor center parking lot at Baylor Regional Park
- Land acquisition and trail construction for the Southwest Regional Trail Connection in Chaska and Victoria

At this time given the economic conditions the County Board feels it is important to continue with reimbursement for lands acquired. Currently Carver County has extended about \$2,500,000 for land acquisition.

Von Barga asked for staff to present a spread sheet of the planned park projects and acquisition for future reference.

Von Barga made a motion to support the staff recommendation to continue with reimbursement as part of the Metropolitan Council CIP. Karki seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

c. Public Review Session for the Dakota Rail Regional Trail Phase 1 Construction

Walsh reported that an open house will be held at the Mayer Community Center (413 Blue Jay Ave, Mayer, MN 55360) from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 18th to review preliminary construction documents, obtain public input on design details and on possible trail ordinance for Phase 1 of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail.

Construction plans for the trail are at a point where it is appropriate to have a public review and provide opportunity for public comment on work to construct a 10 foot wide paved trail.

Funding for the project is available from Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant Application Funds, Carver County Regional Rail Authority and from Parks and Trails Funds (sales tax revenue for parks and trails). Walsh also reported that he received word today (June 10th) that Carver County will receive \$550,000 in Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funds (Stimulus) for the project which will mostly fill the funding gap. It is possible that work could begin this year.

d. Fireworks Display Request

Walsh informed the Park Commission that for many years, property owners along Lake Minnewashta have requested and have been permitted for a fireworks display at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park. The fireworks display is put on by a licensed and insured contractor hired by the property owners. The county does not financially support the fireworks display but provides service which allows the fireworks display to take place. Work by park staff includes contact with event organizer and permitting, sign installation and distribution of notices to vacate boat access #2 by 7:00 p.m. in order for the fireworks crew to set up, coordination with the City of Chanhassen Fire Marshall, and review by County Risk Management.

Conkling made a motion to permit this activity as in the past. Von Barga seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

e. Baylor Regional Park Beach Cost Benefit Analysis

Walsh and Klevan Schmitz provided a work program to include survey of park users to help determine their interest in the beach facility and what role it played in the decision to attend the park. Klevan Schmitz provided a draft survey for the park commission to look over. Some feedback and suggestions were made to improve the survey and will be added by staff. Costs to operate the beach will be analyzed over the summer. Costs to restore the beach area or put to another use would also be explored.

STAFF REPORTS -

a. 2009 and 2010 Budget Update

Walsh noted that the Carver County Board approved the 2009 adjusted budget on June 9th and set the limits for staff for the 2010 budget. As part of this process roughly 30 positions were eliminated by these cuts county wide. Walsh noted that Public Works delayed the purchase of a tandem axel truck for 2009 and reduced lifeguard services. Walsh also shared that the Public Works division will be asked to reduce their 2010 budget by no less than \$140,000.

b. Events, Activities, Campground Software Demonstration

Klevan Schmitz noted that the upcoming MAS Campout with the Stars event is scheduled for July 24-26th at Baylor Regional Park and there are two planned day camps for the summer:
Astronomy and Science Day Camp at Baylor Regional Park July 13-16
Outdoor Adventure Camp at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park August 10-13

c. Regional Park Foundation

Walsh reported that met with the Executive Director, Jane Johnson, and they took a tour of the County Regional Parks. They discussed possible future land purchases and were Carver County is in its development of a regional park system. Walsh also noted that the Regional Park Foundation plans to focus on land acquisition as a primary goal.

d. Misc.

Walsh reported that Carver County is working on an application for a Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant for trail development on either end of the Southwest Regional Trail Connection between Chaska and Victoria. The cost to prepare this application is about \$9,000. If successful the project will involve partnerships with the City of Chaska, City of Victoria and Three Rivers Park District.

Walsh also noted that on Tuesday, June 9th, staff where notified that Carver County will receive an award from NACo (National Association of Counties) for the GoCarverGo Website and TRIP application. Walsh noted that this project was a joint project with Public Health, Planning and Zoning, GIS, Parks and the local cities. It was also noted that the application for the grant was filled out and submitted by Park Staff.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS -

Karki noted that the Waconia Chamber of Commerce had a luncheon and speaker at the Waconia Event Center on May 28th. Karki also noted that the old lumber yard in Waconia at 284 and Highway 5 is planned to be cleaned up by the City of Waconia and they are looking into multiple development ideas for the parcel.

NEXT MEETING - July 8th - Baylor Regional Park

August 12th - Luce Line or Union Pacific?

September 9th - Lake Minnewashta Regional Park?

ADJOURN -

Tieden motioned and Karki seconded to adjourn. Motion was approved 6-0 to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.