



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

11360 Highway 212 West, Suite #2
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Division of Public Works

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Carver County Park Commission Regular Meeting

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

Lake Minnewashta Regional Park
6900 Hazeltine Boulevard
Excelsior, MN 55331
(Located off TH 41 in Chanhassen)

6:30 P.M. Park Tour

Meet at the Maintenance shop

Regular Meeting 7:45 p.m.

Agenda

- 1) Call Regular Meeting to Order (7:45 p.m. at maintenance shop)
- 2) Roll Call (7:45 p.m.)
- 3) Approval of the July 8, 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.)
 - a. Request by Peter Miller to Fund Raise for the Lake Waconia Regional Park Playground
- 8) Old Business (8:20)
 - a. Horse Trail Sub Committee Formation
 - b. 2030 Comprehensive Plan
- 9) Staff Reports (8:40 p.m.)
 - a. Events, Activities,
 - b. Regional Park Foundation Update (Marty)
- 10) Commission Member Reports (8:50 p.m.)
- 11) Set Next Meeting Date (8:55 p.m.)
 - a. Summer Park Tour Location
- 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.

Minutes

July 8th, 2009 Regular Meeting

Members Present: Myron Karki, Jerald Moja, Gail Von Bargen, Thomas Hermann

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Jennifer Felton

Public Present: N/A

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

MINUTES - Karki motioned to approve the June minutes. Moja seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

AGENDA- Von Bargen motioned to approve the agenda. Hermann seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

LIAISON REPORT- N/A

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC- N/A

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2010 Budget

i. Operations

Walsh provided a written narrative of the 2010 budget to Parks Commissioners. Walsh discussed various line items including the budget for staffing, parks patrol, and maintenance. The 2010 budget will not include parks patrol. Staffing numbers will remain the same through 2010. A method used to offset staffing needs at Baylor Regional Park is the presence of camp hosts whom help with day to day campground operations.

Walsh reported on the state of park development. Lake Waconia Regional Park is in a state of land acquisition. However, use numbers increasing. Although the park is in a state of acquisition, the current bathhouse and septic system are not suitable for the number of visitors and type of use the park is currently experiencing. The construction of new facilities at Lake Waconia Regional Park is not in the foreseeable future given the present funding allocation for regional parks.

Lake Minnewashta Regional Park is currently in a state of underdevelopment. Walsh reported that although paved roadways are desired at the park, the funding is not available to do so.

Walsh reported that Carver County anticipates receiving \$205,000 in State FY 2010 from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund. In Carver County two projects are identified for the funding which are Phase 1 of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail and the TH 41 underpass at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park.

In gasoline and diesel budget line items, savings are anticipated in 2010. Also in 2010, costs of employee uniforms and clothing for will be reduced as it is being paid for by the union.

ii. CIP

The CIP for 2010 places priority on the purchase of a new Carver County equipment trailer. The current trailer is 15 years old and in need of replacement.

The acquisition of the County Store land for Lake Waconia Regional Park is also a CIP priority for 2010.

OLD BUSINESS

a. 2030 Comprehensive Plan

Walsh presented Park Commissioners with maps of the Parks System Plan and the Trail and Bikeway System Plan.

Walsh spoke on the different classes of recreational bikers and how they would utilize the Trail and Bikeway System Plan in regards to biker safety.

In the June 2009 Parks Commission meeting, Von Barga asked for staff to present a spread sheet of the planned park projects and acquisition for future reference. Walsh provided a detailed spread sheet for commissioners that gave detailed information on upcoming projects and their funding sources.

STAFF REPORTS-

a. Events, Activities

Felton provided updated information to Commissioners on the upcoming Carver County Parks summer camps. The Astronomy and Science day camp at Baylor Regional Park had a lower number of registrants than anticipated. The camp will still take place on the dates of July 13th-16th. The Outdoor Adventure Day Camp currently has 13 registrants which is more than any previous year. Activities planned include a birding introduction, rock climbing at Lifetime Fitness, fishing, hiking, and a trip to Lowry Nature Center.

Karki suggested that the Onan Observatory at Baylor Regional Park could be a good marketing strategy for Carver County Parks.

b. Dakota Rail Regional Trail

Walsh reported that he and the planning consultant met with representatives of the city of Mayer to discuss the Dakota Rail trail head facility. Walsh also reported that the Dakota Rail Trail open house which was held in Mayer, MN on June 18th and was a success.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS -

Karki asked about the progress on the formation of the equestrian committee. Walsh reported that a memorandum was sent to administration for consideration and that there also needs to be documentation created on the parameters of the committee.

NEXT MEETING - August 12th, 2009 at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park

ADJOURN - Karki motioned and Hermann seconded to adjourn. Motion was approved 4-0 to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.



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DIRECTORS REPORT

August 12, 2009
PARK COMMISSION MEETING

To: Members of the Park Commission
From: Martin Walsh, Parks Director
CC: Lyndon Robjent, County Engineer
Tim Lynch, County Commissioner
Date: 8/7/2009
Re: August 12, 2009 Park Commission Meeting

Open to the Public

Presentation by Peter Miller

Mr. Peter Miller made contact with the Parks Department and is proposing to develop a fundraiser for playground equipment at Lake Waconia Regional Park. He is aware that we have a park master plan which identifies the playground area in the park and would like to work to raise funds to achieve the development of the playground consistent with the park master plan and concept plan for the playground.

He is seeking preliminary approval to begin planning a number of events which could generate funding for the project.

Mr. Miller's desire to create funds for the playground is a fantastic opportunity. An outline or fundraising program needs to be further developed before a recommendation is forwarded on to the County Board for consideration.

At this time the proposed fundraising activity for a playground at Lake Waconia regional Park is in concept stage. Mr. Miller wants to be sure that the work that he is considering doing to raise funds for the playground is done in a way that would meet with the County's approval.

Recommendation:

The Park Commission should ask Mr. Miller to further refine a fundraising program for the project outlining the activities being planned, who would be contacted, address any public recognition of his work or the donation of others to the project, provide a funding goal to be applied to the playground, and work with park staff in the development of the fund raising activity. When the fundraising program is developed, the Park Commission would review it prior to making recommendation to the County Board.

Old Business

A) Horse Trail Subcommittee Formation

Information about development of a Horse Trail Subcommittee of the Park Commission was sent to County Administration and forwarded to County Board Members. County Board members had until August 7, 2009 to respond with any suggestions concerning the development of the committee. At this time, staff is proposing to move ahead with the solicitation for members. Below is information pertaining to the development and work of the subcommittee.

Background Information The Carver County Park Commission met June 10, 2009 to consider forming a subcommittee of the Park Commission to further look into demand and criteria for equestrian trails. The Commission recommendation to the County Board included the following:

Committee Composition

- Two members of the Park Commission, Myron Karki and Richard Tieden
- Three –Five members of the equestrian public
- County Park Staff, Walsh or designee

Work Program

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

Deliverable

- Criteria which would help to identify possible future equestrian trails

Citizen Committee Member Recruitment and Selection

- Application, similar as compared to other county commission applications
- Press release
- Web site
- Word of mouth
- Selection of citizen committee members by Commissioners Karki, Tieden, and citizen representative Carol Dunsmore

Recommendation

Staff will work to solicit members as outlined. Applications are due by September 4th. Selection committee is to meet September 9, 2009 to review applications and later make recommendation to the Park Commission. Notification back to applicants is made after September 9, 2009. The first meeting of the Horse Trail Subcommittee is tentatively set for the week of September 21, 2009.

B) 2030 Comprehensive Plan

Attached is the most recent version of the 2030 comprehensive plan for the Park Commission's review. The document is planned to be distributed to the County townships for their review. This version of the Comprehensive Plan follows the direction provided by the County Board to staff making adjustments to the plan. Primary adjustment included the removal of the Crow River Regional Park search area, removal of the Alternative Development Track, a negotiated approach to land preservation, mapping work and language pertaining to conservation corridors.

The comprehensive plan continues to be reviewed. The County Board has not been requested to adopt the plan.