



CARVER COUNTY PARKS

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Division of Public Works

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Park Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 10th, 2013

6:30 p.m. Tour, 8:15 p.m. Regular Meeting

Lake Waconia Regional Park
8170 Paradise Lane, Waconia, MN 55318

- 1) Assemble at the Main Parking Lot at the Beach, Depart for Tour of Park

Regular Meeting Agenda

- 1) Arrive at Waconia Event Center Approximately 7:45 p.m.
- 2) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (7:46 p.m.)
- 3) Approval of the June 12, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes (7:47 p.m.)
- 4) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (7:48 p.m.)
- 5) Approval of Agenda (7:49 p.m.)
- 6) Open to the Public (7:50 p.m.)
- 7) New Business (8:21 p.m.)
 - a. Request to Amend Site Plan and Agreement for the Casby Observatory and Classroom
- 8) Staff Reports (8:50 p.m.)
 - a. 2014 Budget
 - b. Aquatic Invasive Species Program-Update
 - c. Southwest Regional Trail
 - d. Phase II of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail
 - e. Lake Minnewashta Park and TH 41 Trail
 - f. Events and Activities
- 9) Commission Member Reports (9:00 p.m.)
- 10) Set Next Meeting Date (9:01 p.m.)
- 11) Adjourn Meeting (9:02 p.m.)

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

Draft
Meeting Minutes
June 12th, 2013

Members Present: Thomas Hermann, Myron Karki, Jim Manders, Carrol Aasen, Ron Trick, Josh Ives

Staff Present: Marty Walsh, Sam Pertz

CALL TO ORDER: Karki called the meeting to order at 8:34p.m.

MINUTES: 8:34p.m. Hermann motioned to approve the minutes of the May 8th, 2013 regular meeting minutes. Ives seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 to 0.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

8:35p.m. Staff addition in agenda for the meeting and Park/Trail tour to meet with Minnesota Astronomical Society (MAS) Staff Merle Hiltner to review his/MAS desire to amend the construction plan and contract for the MAS facilities at Baylor Regional Park. No vote taken.

AGENDA: 8:35p.m. Manders motioned to approve meeting agenda, Trick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 to 0.

Open to the Public: 8:36p.m.
None present.

New Business: 8:36p.m.

A. 2014 Budget:

i. General Fund Budget Request

Walsh discusses budget work and thinking regarding 2014 with the Commission members. Through the power point presentation, Walsh highlights changes and additions in comparison to previous years. Largest area of change or difference is in regarding to Recreation Programming and Events, particularly in revenue and expense. After presentation Park Commission follows up with a few questions:

Karki – are there areas in the budget that would include the possibility of starting other Regional Parks in the County? Walsh responds that there are and identifies where they are located.

Manders – is there possibility in the future that would involve a project to better connect Lake Minnewashta Regional Park and City of Chanhassen Park Hermann Field? Walsh responds that at this time Staff has not looked at that as a potential project and in result has not budgeted for such work.

Manders, Ives and Walsh continue discussion on the purpose of the informal trail that currently connects the two Park areas. Questions are raised about how it might compare/contrast to the City of Chanhassen trail plans. Karki suggests this portion of the Park is visited on the next Park Commission meeting that is held at that location.

Ives – what areas did AIS staffing come from in 2013? Walsh responds that the County’s portion of the funding came from some money set aside last year as a one time, CIP type approach for the services as well as anticipated funding that would be needed based on 2012 efforts. All of the County funds came from the General Fund for these services.

No additional questions or comments.

ii. Proposed 2014-2019 CIP

Walsh discusses capital improvement plans with the Park Commission through a power point presentation. The presentation outlines a number of potential projects over the next five years. The list of potential projects ranges from expansion of Baylor Regional Park, improvement and enhancement of Lake Waconia Regional Park with a new playground facility, paving of the Lake Minnewashta Regional Park road and redevelopment of boat access #1 and other significant items. Walsh reviews confirmed funding sources and amounts over the 5 year window and also indicates the gap in funding based on the list of projects and estimated costs. Walsh asks Park Commission for suggestions, ideas, feedback and recommendations for the 5 year CIP plan. Suggestions and discussion include:

Karki – recommends the planning process to begin early in regards to Lake Waconia Regional Park and its development. He believes much work can be potential done in house, and can begin the process in advance to consulting work that would be hired.

Ives – no additional items should be added to the list at this time and is unsure and uninformed about the idea of a playground facility at Lake Waconia Regional Park, particularly at the price indicated in the presentation.

Manders – no issues with list and items on CIP because it is consistent with CIP in the past.

Staff and Commission members talk in detail about the pavement work and boat access redevelopment work that is indicated to take place at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park. Staff comments that additional funds are being sought to pool sufficient dollars to complete the entire scope of the project, rather than in phases. Park Commission members comment that work at Lake Minnewashta Park would likely increase the usage of the Park in significant ways, suggesting immediate focus be put on that project. Karki concludes the discussion, commenting that he believes once something is started is should be finished and to pave/redevelop the road and boat access at the Park should take place at one time.

Park Commission comes to a group recommendation that pavement and boat access work at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park are the immediate focus/goal for Staff.

No additional questions or comments.

Staff Reports (8:47p.m.)

A. Aquatic Invasive Species Program – Update:

Pertz reports on the AIS program thus far into the fishing/boating season. Information on Staffing hours, watercraft inspected and issues for the first 4 weeks of service are shared. Pertz also provides information about the pilot tagging system issued by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD).

No further questions or comments.

B. Southwest Regional Trail:

Walsh provides an update to Commission members regarding work on the Southwest Regional Trail in Chaska and Victoria. Walsh is confident certificates of Right of Way will be complete by June 14th, with the timeline of construction staying consistent for August of this year.

No further questions or comments.

C. Events and Activities:

Pertz updates the Park Commission members on the recent and upcoming programming and events that have taken place in the park and trail system. Pertz mentions a significant increase in Private Programming, with (6) bookings thus far into the year. Pertz discusses focus on increasing Private Programming bookings, and identifies that over 500 people have partook in outdoor recreation Programming with Carver County Parks so far in 2013. Pertz also makes comment thanking Park Commission for their attendance to the Dakota Rail Regional Trail Grand Opening in New Germany on June 1st, and also makes special notice to the Grand Opening Celebration at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park on June 18th for the new section of trail in the Park.

No further questions or comments.

D. Fencing of the Off-leash Dog Park at Lake Minnewashta

Staff as for action from the Park Commission on their decision to fence a portion of the off-leash dog Park which has been reviewed and discussed since the start of the year. Staff provides information that was gathered from a public process allowing Dog Park users to call the Park Office staff and share their opinion on fencing vs. not fencing the remainder of the Dog Park. Park Commission members vote, 4 supporting the completed fencing project, 2 not in favor.

No additional questions or comments.

Commission Member Reports: (9:51p.m.)

Karki informs Staff and Park Commission of a unique softball event in Waconia on July 12th-13th, a tournament that includes the Wounded Warrior softball team. Karki invites all to attend if they are available.

Next Meeting Date: (9:52p.m.) 7:00pm on July 10th at Lake Waconia Regional Park. Tour of newly acquired land.

Adjourn Meeting: (9:53p.m.) 9:53p.m. Hermann motioned to adjourn the meeting, Manders seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 to 0.