

LABOR MANAGEMENT SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, August 4, 2010  
8:15-10:30am – Highland Library and Hillcrest Recreation Center

Present: Mike Dreis, Mary Jo Kiewel, Sandra Bodensteiner, Ron Hauth, Tom Bosman, Lorrie Brown, Dave Schuler, Debbie Willms, Pat Gerlach, Derek Hollanitsch, John P. Blackstone

1) Introduction to Libraries

Debbie Willms is the Deputy Director of the Central Library. She was introduced by Pat Gerlach, Parks Safety. Debbie gave us a brief history of the Saint Paul Public Library that was established in 1882. Since 1917 the beautiful and historic Central Library has served as the center of the library system which now extends to twelve branches, a bookmobile and on-line services.

Pat Gerlach gave us a brief history of the Highland Library which originally was known as the Ford Parkway branch of the Saint Paul Public Library. The library opened on March 20, 1954. The building was redesigned in 1994, incorporating the existing building into a modern design concept that shares its facility with Hillcrest Recreation Center.

The library has 28 computer workstations, 15 internet workstations, 2 word processors, 9 catalog workstations, 1 children's workstation, and 1 assistant technology station. They are also equipped with WiFi/Quiet Study counter work-space and seasonal outdoor courtyard seating for 8.

Highland Library's role of service to youth is strong. Teachers use the library for classroom collection and by students as a center for both homework and recreational reading. Families use the library to read and share stories with their children. During the summer, hundreds of Highland area children participate in the Summer Reading Program. The community uses the library heavily as an access point to the internet. The new West 7<sup>th</sup> Street Library is equipped with a computer lab that is accessible for immigrants in Somali, Hmong and Spanish. They also have security in the buildings.

2) Introduction to Parks

Ron Hauth Parks Safety Director introduced Toni Smith and Linda Flynn from Parks and Recreation Department who showed the committee a presentation on the recreational programs offered.

Recreational services offered are recreational centers and programming, municipal athletics, aquatics, citywide programs, mobile recreation, fitness, adaptive recreation and senior programs. Funding for the various programs is provided by the general fund to operate the facilities (staff, heat, lights, telephone, and maintenance). Special funds is money raised through participation fees, grants, facility rentals, leases, booster club fundraising. With begging being optional.

They currently have 25 recreational centers which include inside and outside amenities, 5 are joint use facilities with the St. Paul Public Schools, and 9 are re-partnered sites. Indoor amenities include gyms, kitchens, art rooms, multi-purpose rooms, fitness centers & walking tracks, dance studios, theaters, computer labs. Outdoor amenities include, baseball/softball fields, football/soccer fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, play areas, ice rinks, and skateboard parks.

In the summer of 2009, the City of Saint Paul and Creative Water Solutions introduced a new commercial filtration technique using sphagnum moss in addition to the chlorine based system already in use. Pools have better water quality and clarity as well as reduction in chlorine use and cost.

3) The committee was then shown the Highland Library facility both main level and lower level where excess books are kept, as well as their maintenance room. Patty Krezowski gave us the tour of the facility

The committee than toured Hillcrest Recreational Center by Jo Loots and saw the day care facility, gym, storage of equipment, baseball fields and meeting rooms, as well as a kitchen facility they use to feed children breakfast. Everyone enjoyed the tour and was thankful to the Highland Library and Hillcrest staff taking time out of their busy day to gives the committee a tour. Thank you also for the bagel, juice and coffee that was provided to the committee during the presentation.

4) Labor Management Safety Committee Business – Mary Jo Kiewel

The committee approved the minutes from the July 7, 2010 meeting.

Discussion that not all sub-committees are sending their minutes to Mary Jo, so a reminder was requested.

Cathy Jackson from HealthPartners will begin a Citywide Health and Wellness committee. This committee will function independently from the LMSC.