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CITY OF SAINT PAUL

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**Indian Mounds Regional Park Master Plan
Task Force Meeting #4 Notes
November 18, 2010**

Guiding Principle: Recognize, celebrate, interpret and seek to preserve the historic, cultural and natural resources in a way that fosters stewardship while providing recreational amenities appropriate for a regional park.

Staff Present:

Kathleen Anglo, Project Manager, Parks & Recreation Design
Ellen Stewart, Parks & Recreation Design
Karin Misiewicz, Parks & Recreation Operations
Cy Kosel, Parks & Recreation Environmental Services
Don Ganje, Parks & Recreation Design

Task Force Members Present:

Julie Gugin, Task Force Chair	Brian Miller
Ned Brooks	Marjorie Pitz
Jacob Dorer	Sue Richter
Stephanie Harr	Jane Russo
Anne Kolar	Steve Trimble
Jim Jones	Wally Waranka

Task Force Members Absent:

John Anfinson, National Pk Serv.	Candy Petersen
Colleen Ashton	Tom Ross
N. Scott Larsen	Leonard Wabasha

Comments added by the task force are in italics

Welcome & Recap of last meeting

Overview of concurrent planning efforts

- Systems Plan – In DRAFT form and available for public comment
- Great River Park Plan – Preliminary stages

Presentation of overall land use plan - Expanded to three Focus Areas after last meeting with understanding that there are certain assumptions made about the park as established in previous meetings.

Focus Area 1 –

- *Preference for a gateway feature/gateway garden at the west entrance rather than active recreational use proximate to entrance. If there is active recreation, it could be buffered.*



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National Gold Medal Award

Location of volleyball and bocce in Concept A is away from the trail and outside the scenic view sheds.

- *Connection to Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary would have to be done sensitively recognizing the issues that arose from the community with the previous design resulting in forfeiture of a federal grant. Considerations need to be made for cultural resources, safety and views in the way a connection would be implemented.*
- *Traffic calming measures shown through the park need to be checked against the road classification and design parameters. Staff will meet with Public Works to discuss opportunities*
- *In considering an off leash dog area within the area, habitat value should be a factor as well as the size of the facility. Concept B shows a small off leash dog area which is well situated – tucked away and not obvious. Would serve smaller area – not a regional draw.*
- *Overall preference for Concept B*
- *Less extensive trail system, more open lawn space, less programmed space*
- *Respect cultural resources and engage MAIC on plans and decisions on the park paying attention to the reasons that this site was selected by American Indians long ago as a sacred place. Include interpretation of the cultural history to impress upon park users the significance of Indian Mounds Park today and to those who chose it to bury their people long ago.*

Focus Area 2 –

- *Overall preference for Concept A*
- *Amend with perched wetland/biofiltration area with periphery picnicking from Concept B*
- *Add the extended prairie and trail from Concept B*
- *Consider keeping tennis courts*
- *Amphitheater location needs to be proximate to Cerenity, Bathrooms and easily accessible. Aspect could have stage facing Cerenity, which may open up options for siting it.*
- *Return plantings on mounds to native plantings which may be maintained preferably by burning vs. chemical applications. Issues with American Indian community arise when people are walking on mounds, or when they are maintained by equipment that leaves tracks. There is a survey marker on one of the mounds that MAIC suggests relocating.*
- *Exercise stations along a path should be well planned so they are used. Anne has surveyed staff and stated that there is a lot of support for a exercise/stretching stations along a trail for Cerenity programming as well as employee use.*

Skipped Focus Area 3 to move ahead with presentation on Mounds Maintenance

- Presentation of the existing amenities, the amenities suggested by the task force in the first meeting, and the current language from the Systems DRAFT plan.
- Stated that in order to keep the Mounds Maintenance area as a neighborhood park, it should fulfill an active recreation need for the area as established by the vision and system plans. Activating the park will help reduce security issues and satisfy recreational needs identified in the vision and systems plans for the city and the neighborhood.
- Discussion of Mounds Maintenance facility will continue at the next task force meeting.

Next meeting will be December 16, 2010 at 6:30 pm at Cerenity Senior Care

The agenda will include presentation of Focus Area 3, recap of Mounds Maintenance and discussion concluding with direction for presentation of concept at the Public Open House in January.