

September 2012 MEETING MINUTES

**September 12, 2012
Baker Community Center**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Bishop, Dave Haley, Dan Marckel, John Mountain, Emily Shively, and Andrew Trcka

MEMBERS ABSENT: Erick Goodlow and Betsy Mowry

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Hahm, Brenda Ullrich, Jane Eastwood, Kathy Korum, Megan Mueller, and Akbar Muhammad

GUESTS: Xarerine Bantari, Drisana Green, Caroline Lucas, John Mark T. Lucas, Genna Maxwell, Hta Thi Moo, Zerbine Rypa, Aljaya Sims, Calton Sims, Harold Sims, Eric Smith, Sam Smith, Diana Turner, Lucas Zimmer, Scott Zimmer

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Trcka at 6:31 p.m.
- b. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Haley and seconded by Commissioner Marckel. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent.
- c. Commissioner Bishop moved to approve the June 2012 Special Meeting minutes. Commissioner Shively seconded the motion. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent.
- d. Commissioner Marckel moved to approve the July 2012 Meeting minutes. Commissioner Mountain seconded the motion. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent.

2. ACTION ITEMS

a. Resolution #12-07 Jonathan Carter Recognition

Commission Chair Carter formalized his resignation due to a move out of the City of Saint Paul. Vice Chair Trcka gave a brief statement expressing the appreciation of the Commission for Chair Carter's service on the Commission and in the community. The resolution recognized Chair Carter's service to the citizens of Saint Paul as a dedicated member of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the past four years.

A motion was made by Commissioner Haley and seconded by Commissioner Bishop to approve Resolution #12-07. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent.



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3. PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Chair Trcka explained the public hearing process as an opportunity for the public to be heard on general Parks matters. Commissioner Mountain made a motion to open the public hearing which was seconded by Commissioner Marckel. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor of opening the public hearing with three commissioners absent. The public hearing was opened at 6:40 p.m. There were no members of the public wishing to make comment the time the public hearing was opened.

At 7:15 p.m. Vice Chair Trcka again asked if there were any members of the public wishing to make a public comment. With no one responding in the affirmative, Commissioner Mountain moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Haley seconded the motion which was approved 6 to 0 with three commissioners absent. Vice Chair Trcka then closed the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Youth Commission Update

Kathy Korum, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director, began the induction of the 2012 – 2013 Youth Commissioners with background information on the Youth Commission which started as part of the 2nd Shift Initiative and has been in place since 2006.

Megan Mueller, the community youth worker serving as the staff liaison for the Youth Commission, continued with further information about the Youth Commission and its members. She explained the qualifications youth have to meet to be a part of the Youth Commission, as well as the key issues for this year's Youth Commission: youth homelessness, bike accessibility, and youth transit access and usage.

Each of the Youth Commissioners in attendance, Drisana Green, Caroline Lucas, Hta Thi Moo, Zerbine Rypa, Aljaya Sims, Sam Smith, and Lucas Zimmer introduced themselves to the Parks and Recreation Commissioners. The Youth Commissioners were then given an opportunity to talk with Parks and Recreation Commissioners about community involvement, volunteering, and commission work, among other things.

Commissioner Bishop then moved to officially induct the Youth Commissioners. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Haley and was approved 6 to 0 with three commissioners absent.

b. Promise Neighborhood Report

Jane Eastwood, Mayor Chris Coleman's Education Director, provided the Commission with an update on the Promise Neighborhood. Ms. Eastwood explained the program's basis on the Harlem Children's Zone in Central Harlem in New York City. The Promise



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Neighborhood area encompasses 250 square blocks of the Frogtown and Summit-University neighborhoods.

The goal of the initiative is to provide a community-wide effort to ensure all children succeed in school and in life through seamless coordination of cradle-to-career educational, family, and community resources and supports.

The values guiding the initiative involve engaging the community and its leadership in the process; building on community strengths; and using research-based, culturally-appropriate strategies to meet needs.

Wilder Foundation is the managing partner of the program. Saint Paul College has signed on as a partner. This year's project budget is comprised of local support totaling over \$1.1 million from a variety of philanthropic, community, and institutional partners.

c. Vacant Officer Election

Commissioner Bishop nominated Vice Chair Trcka for the position of Chair. Commissioner Haley seconded the nomination. Commissioner Shively moved to close the nominations for Chair which was seconded by Commissioner Mountain.

A motion was made by Commissioner Marckel and seconded by Commissioner Haley to white ballot. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent.

Commissioner Haley nominated Commissioner Bishop for the position of Vice Chair. Commissioner Shively seconded the nomination. Commissioner Mountain moved to close the nominations for Chair which was seconded by Commissioner Marckel.

A motion was made by Commissioner Haley and seconded by Commissioner Shively to white ballot. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. 2012 Work Plan – First Half Report

Director Hahm gave a short update on the status of the 2012 Work Plan. He gave a brief overview of select items on the work plan as well as how items get placed on the Work Plan.



b. Budget Update

Director Hahm gave a short update on the 2013 budget. He explained that it is a statistically flat General Fund operating budget for the Parks and Recreation Department. It includes a structural solution to the Como Zoo and Conservatory as well as incorporating the reprogramming of two recreation centers, Conway Recreation Center and McDonough Recreation Center, and changes to the storeroom function at the Central Services Facility.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

a. Como Regional Park Committee – Commissioner Marckel

Commissioner Marckel explained the committee met on September 11th and discussed the signage and way finding plan. He explained they are working on it specific to Como but hoping to set guidelines for uniformity across the Parks and Recreation Department.

b. Blooming Saint Paul – Commissioner Mountain

Commissioner Mountain was not in attendance at the most recent meeting; however they are looking at applications for awards for Blooming Saint Paul.

c. Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission – Commissioner Trcka

The last two meetings were cancelled.

d. Trees Advisory Committee – Commissioner Goodlow

Commissioner Goodlow absent.

e. Victoria Park – Commissioner Shively

Commissioner Shively explained the first meeting will be held on Monday, September 17th. It will encompass a walking tour, an overview of the process for the meetings, and the expectations of the participants will be discussed.

f. Other Reports

Commissioner Trcka reported he is interested in being replaced on the Transportation Committee. The possibility of a different committee being represented by a commissioner was also raised.

6. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Marckel and seconded by Commissioner Bishop. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.