Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Commission
400 City Hall Annex, 25 West 4th Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102 (651) 266-6400

JANUARY 2011 MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2011
Location: Hazel Park Recreation Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: **Lynda Anderson, Susan Bishop, Jonathan Carter, Dave Haley, Erick Goodlow, Betsy Mowry, Andy Trcka and Carrie Wasley**

MEMBERS ABSENT: **Paul Middleton**

STAFF PRESENT: **Mike Hahm, Diana Berchem, Michelle Furrer, Gary Korum, Kathy Korum, Jody Martinez, Susie Odegard, Gwen Peterson and Tom Russell**

GUESTS: **Lynne Ogawa, Bill Driver, Kevin Huepenbecker, Tom Russ, Bill Hosko, Peggy Lynch, Councilmember Dan Bostrom, Representative Tim Mahoney**

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTION, ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. The meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm by Chair Wasley. There was not a quorum present, so agenda items were rearranged until there was a quorum. Action item, Resolution #11-01 Parks and Recreation System Plan, was laid over until the end of the meeting to be assured an official vote.
b. Commissioner Trcka moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Haley 2nd the motion. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one Commissioner absent.
c. Commissioner Haley moved to approve the December 2010 minutes. Commissioner Anderson 2nd the motion. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one Commissioner absent.

2. ACTION ITEMS

a. **Resolution #11-01 Parks and Recreation System Plan**
Director Hahm thanked everyone for their participation in the public hearing of Monday evening on January 10, 2011. He commented that all comments and feedback from the public over the last few months have been very helpful to hear to complete the plan.

Director Hahm continued by pointing out a concern that he wanted to address. As a result of the public hearing on January 10, it became clear that there is a misunderstanding amongst the public about the Parks and Recreation System Plan and what it means. He indicated that the plan is meant to be considered as a guide for future planning of the St. Paul Parks and Recreation system. Plans relating to major changes within the parks and recreation system will be brought before the public for input before proceeding. He also mentioned this clarification is noted in the revised Resolution #11-01.

Commissioner Haley motioned to support Resolution #11-01 in its revised form. Commissioner Goodlow 2nd the motion. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one Commissioner absent.

3. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. **Elected Officials**
Councilmember Dan Bostrom and Representative Tim Mahoney provided comments on how the Department of Parks and Recreation and all planning decisions is valuable to the future of the City of Saint Paul.

4. **STAFF REPORTS**

a. **Year In Review**
Director Hahm talked about the new staff leading the Sections in the Department. He also highlighted a few projects which were a focus in 2010 and will be in the year(s) to come: Parks and Recreation System Plan, Mounds Park Master Plan, Phalen/Kelly Regional Park Master Plan, and the Great River Park Master Plan.

b. **Administration, Finance and Planning Section** – Tom Russell
Tom briefed the Commission on the issues and accomplishments of the Administration, Finance and Planning Section.

c. **Operations** – Gary Korum
Gary briefed the Commission on the issues and accomplishments of the Operations Section.

d. **Special Services** – Susie Odegard
Susie briefed the Commission on the issues and accomplishments of the Special Services Section.

e. **Design and Construction** – Jody Martinez
Jody briefed the Commission on the issues and accomplishments of the Design and Construction Section.

f. **Como Campus** – Michelle Furrer
Michelle briefed the Commission on the issues and accomplishments of the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory.

g. **Recreation** – Gwen Peterson
Gwen briefed the Commission on the issues and accomplishments of the Recreation Section.

h. **Youth and Citywide Initiatives** – Kathy Korum
Kathy briefed the Commission on the issues and accomplishments for the Youth and Citywide Initiatives.

5. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

a. **2011 Commission Work Plan**
Director Hahm presented a draft Work Plan for 2011. He pointed out some differences from the last few year's work plan and if agreed upon, is recommending the following: the annual Community Agency and Organization Leadership meeting be in September on the Mississippi River for a Jonathan Padelford Boat Trip; the annual Facility Tour be in June; and a Public Hearing be scheduled for August.

The Commission agreed to the work plan with the following changes: add a Youth Commission visit to the April meeting

Commissioner Mowry motioned to approve the 2011 Commission Work Plan, with agreed upon changes, and Commissioner Bishop 2nd the motion. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one Commissioner absent.

b. **Commission Photo**
A new photo was taken.

6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. **2011-2015 Strategic Plan**
The 2011 Strategic Plan was passed out to all Commissioners. Director Hahm is working on details for 2012-2015 and will be sent electronically when complete.

Commissioner Mowry requested periodic updates from the Parks Conservancy. Director Hahm offered to add that to the work plan.

b. **Department Monthly Highlights**
Director Hahm highlighted the Holiday Lights event at Phalen Park. Chair Wasley asked about the final numbers. This information will be found out and provided electronically.

Director Hahm briefly discussed the 2011 July 4 event at Harriet Island. He indicated there will not be a festival style event this year, but more of a traditional fireworks shoot. The potential for a future festival event will be positioned for 2012.

7. SUBCOMMITTEES AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

a. **Dog Park** – Commissioner Mowry/Commissioner Anderson
Commissioner Mowry indicated the Dog Park Committee disbanded about a month ago and have halted operations for the time being.

b. **Second Shift** – Commissioner Mowry/Commissioner Bishop
Commissioner Mowry indicated that the Youth Commission met last week and are working on establishing quality programs.

c. **Blooming St. Paul** – Commissioner Middleton
No report.

d. **Transportation Advisory Board** – Commissioner Trcka
Commissioner Trcka indicated the December meeting was cancelled.

e. **Trees** – Commissioner Goodlow
Commissioner Goodlow indicated that there is no action at this time due to the holidays but anticipate 2011 issues will be a topic of focus.

f. **Ramsey Conservation District** – Commissioner Wasley
Commissioner Wasley indicated there was an organizational meeting today and progress is moving forward.

g. **Ford Initiative** – Commissioner Wasley
Commissioner Wasley indicated that the last meeting is scheduled for January 24. She will provide a report next month and a copy of the draft plan to the Department.

h. **Other Reports**
No other reports.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**
It was motioned to adjourn by Commissioner Mowry and 2nd by Commissioner Anderson. The vote was 8 to 0 with one commissioner absent. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.