



## CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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August 21, 2007

### Harriet Island Phase II Design Task Force

#### Meeting Notes – August 20, 2007

#### Wellstone Center

#### Meeting Attendees:

**Design Task Force:** Steve Komula, Virginia McBride, Peggy Lynch, Jim Smith, Peter Kramer, Gjerry Berquist, Sarah Kokke, Jody Martinez and Kathleen Anglo

**Community Members:** Barbara Haake, Robert Ferguson, and Kathy Stack

- A. **Kathleen Anglo of Parks and Recreation welcomed attendees. Attendee introductions.**
- B. **Recap of June 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting**
- C. **Presentation of Plaza de Honor by Michael Medina**
  - Proposed for location by existing flagpole
  - Memorial to Mexican American Veterans (West Side focus)
  - Fundraising underway
  - Not part of Phase II renovations
- D. **Concept Review**
  - CONCEPT 1- Continuation of Phase I
    - Sweeping river walk
    - Clean lines, simple circulation pattern
    - Mostly mowed turf with large tree over story
    - Focus on river corridor
    - Focal point at western end of island
    - All walkways/ trails concrete
    - Shelter located adjacent to parking
    - Picnic area located in shaded areas to the north and west of picnic shelter
    - All amenities the same as phase I (Lighting, benches, tables)
    - Shelter character: red roof, brick, and limestone
    - Additional biofiltration area to the west
    - Interpretive signage (historical and working river)
  - CONCEPT 2 - Natural
    - Focus on convergence of landscape types
    - Curvilinear, flowing patterns
    - Use of natural materials
    - Focal point at Plaza - Transition area



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National Gold Medal Award

- Shelter located along edge of open lawn with focus out toward river and flood plain forest as backdrop
- Picnic area located within different landscape types (forest, open turf, turf with large tree over story)
- Shelter location provides good access to parking.
- Biofiltration area improved and expanded with taller grasses(2'-3')
- Bridge over stream bed connecting biofiltration ponds
- Sitting boulders placed along beach shoreline
- **CONCEPT 3 – Classic Picnic Park**
  - Emphasis on family
  - Children's Garden, with sculpture and sensory play
  - Focus on garden and shelter
  - Designated fishing nodes along beach
  - Large access point to beach from existing boat landing
  - Seating nodes along river walk
  - Hierarchy of walk widths and materials (transition from active use to passive use)
  - Picnic shelter located close to river walk within children's garden.
  - Picnic area located within shade of large tree over story
  - Large areas of mowed turf with tree over story
  - Floodplain vegetation along shoreline
  - Biofiltration area improved, bridge over ponds with interpretive signage

**D. Discussion/Comments/Questions:**

- Preferred Natural Design (Concept 2)
  - Keep peninsula open, more safe and inviting
  - More passive, contemplative
  - Low, natural plantings on peninsula preferred
  - Taller grasses within biofiltration area
  - Natural materials, sitting stones
  - Research pervious materials for paving
  - Overlook desired at bend in river, draws the user westward
  - Incorporate children's play equipment / Children's garden from concept 3
  - Like seating area at end of peninsula as shown in concept 1
  - Revisit fire ring idea with maintenance
  - Undulating walks may not be accessible for security vehicles
- Picnic shelter
  - Move to a more centralized location, easily seen from parking lot, but draws you into the space (Visual Corridor)
  - Have a few picnic tables close to parking lot to direct people to picnic area
- Signage
  - Needs to be an integral part of design
  - Needed throughout entire park
- Safety and Lighting
  - Light trail for safety
  - Will need to do a lighting study to balance safety and light pollution
  - Use fixtures that do not cast light into the night sky, direct light downward
- Maintenance
  - Irrigation would help maintain vegetation
  - Cost to maintain?

- Use low maintenance, native plantings
- Kelley's Landing
  - Maintain recognition of Kelley's Landing
  - Memorial bench or other amenity possible

**F. Next Steps:**

- Concept Refinement/ Detail Design
- **Next Meeting:** ~~(tentative) Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>~~ Set for Monday, **October 29<sup>th</sup>** at 4:30 PM at Wellstone Center.
- **PLEASE REVIEW THESE NOTES AND CONTACT ME (651-266-6368) IF COMMENTS ARE INCORRECTLY NOTED OR MISSED COMPLETELY.**

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