

October 2012 MEETING MINUTES

**October 10, 2012
Harriet Island Pavilion**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Bishop, Erick Goodlow, Dave Haley, Dan Marckel, John Mountain, Betsy Mowry, Emily Shively, Andrew Trcka, and Salina Vang

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Kathy Korum, Brenda Ullrich, Ellen Stewart

GUESTS: Tait A. Danielson Castillo, Setu Jones, Robert McGillivray, Patricia Ohmans, and Rich Strauman

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The meeting was called to order by Chair Trcka at 6:39 p.m.
- b. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Goodlow and seconded by Commissioner Haley. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor with two commissioners arriving after the vote.
- c. Commissioner Shively moved to approve the September 2012 Meeting minutes. Commissioner Mountain seconded the motion. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor with two commissioners arriving after the vote.
- d. New Commissioner Salina Vang was introduced and welcomed.

2. ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Resolution #12-08 Frogtown Park and Farms and Related Purchase Agreement with the Trust for Public Land.**

Deputy Direct Kathy Korum gave a brief overview of the Frogtown Farms purchase agreement with the Trust for Public Land which was followed by a more in depth explanation provided by Bob McGillivray with the Trust for Public Land.

Mr. McGillivray spoke about the importance of open space and the lack of it in the Frogtown area. There is less land per child there than in any other area of the city. The purchase agreement between the City of Saint Paul and the Trust for Public land would enable the City to purchase the 12.7 acres from the Trust for Public Land at a price substantially lower than the appraised value. The City will also be granted, through this agreement, \$500,000 for improvements to the land. The property will be used for open space, water quality management, and education among other things.



A motion was made by Commissioner Mowry and seconded by Commissioner Marckel to approve Resolution #12-08. The vote was 9 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Ford Plan Site Update

Deputy Director Korum reviewed the written material provided by the Planning and Economic Development department. Deputy Director Korum there has been limited activities at the site related to the Parks and Recreation Department. Ford is expected to submit a complete application for a master site plan to decommission the site during October of 2012. There will be activities related to the Parks and Recreation Department happening, likely, mid-year of 2014.

b. Central Corridor Update

Ellen Stewart, from the Design Section of Parks and Recreation, gave a presentation on Central Corridor. In her presentation she provided a brief overview and history of the project as well as emphasizing the size and scope of the project. Ms. Stewart went on to explain the value add from Parks as well as some of the environmental concerns involved. Goals for the project are to make sure there is at least a vision in place for parks as part of the Central Corridor Construction; meet user needs; find feasible solutions; and maximize the potential for LRT investment.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Budget Update

Deputy Director Korum explained there have been no real changes to the budget since the last Commission Meeting. She spoke a little about the reduction in the Recreation Services budget necessitating the potential repartnering of Conway and McDonough recreation centers. As the final budget is not in place, limited action is being taken currently.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

a. Como Regional Park Committee – Commissioner Marckel

Commissioner Marckel showed a copy of the almost final signage and way finding plan. The plan has examples of signage that could be used throughout the entire system. He also explained Metro Transit representatives were in attendance at the meeting on October 9, 2012, to go through their redesign. This redesign will have a bus route going up Lexington Parkway to Como Park.



b. Blooming Saint Paul – Commissioner Mountain

Commissioner Mountain explained they will be meeting October 15, 2012 and he will have more at the November Commission Meeting.

c. Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission – Commissioner Trcka

There was an open house for bus improvements going on concurrently with tonight's Commission meeting. There will be another meeting next week.

d. Trees Advisory Committee – Commissioner Goodlow

Commissioner Goodlow reported they met last month and selected trees for the Landmark Tree Awards, which can be found online. Eight trees were selected in total, four from boulevards, two from parkland, and two from private property. Wednesday, October 17, 2012, they will be meeting with the Minneapolis Tree Commission.

e. Victoria Park – Commissioner Shively

Commissioner Shively explained that the first meeting took place last month. A walking tour of the site was part of the meeting. The next meeting will encompass the visioning, and setting goals and objectives for the park use and site analysis.

f. Other Reports

The Great River Passage plan is advancing through the Planning Commission Committee process. The full Planning Commission will review it at their next meeting. Graphics, sketches, etc., will be included.

6. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mowry and seconded by Vice Chair Bishop. The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

