

November 2013 Meeting Minutes

**November 13, 2013
Hazel Park Recreation Center**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Erick Goodlow

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Hahm, Kathy Korum, Susie Odegard, Brad Meyer, Cy Kosel, Dan Udem

GUESTS: Sue McCall, Lisa Thies, Ellya Thomson, Lynne Larkin-Wright, Joann Ellis, Loretta Novak, Robin Madsen, Peggy Lynch, Bill Driver, Meghan Mueller

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The meeting was called to order by Chair Trcka at 6:34 p.m.
- b. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Bishop and seconded by Commissioner Shively. The vote was 7 to 0 in favor with 2 commissioners absent.
- c. Commissioner Markel moved to approve the October 2013 Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Mountain seconded the motion. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with 1 commissioner absent.

2. ACTION ITEM

a. Resolution 13-14 Amending the Bruce Vento Regional Trail Master Plan

Director Hahm introduced Resolution 13-14 to the Commission and explained that due to the construction of the Lowertown Ballpark a realignment of the Bruce Vento Regional Trail is required from 4th Street to Willius and Prince. This amendment will update the Bruce Vento Regional Trail Master Plan to include the realignment.

A motion to approve Resolution 13-14 was made by Commissioner Haley and seconded by Commissioner Shively. The vote was 8-0 in favor with 1 commissioner absent.



b. Resolution 13-15 Sanneh Agreement at Conway Recreation Center

Deputy Director Korum introduced Resolution 13-15 to the Commission and explained that the Department of Parks and Recreation worked closely with District Council 1 and a group of community members to help select a suitable service partner for Conway Recreation Center. The lease agreement with Sanneh is for a three year term and the community group along with the Department of Parks and Recreation will meet with Sanneh at six months intervals to review the services they are providing at Conway and the community's response to these services.

A motion to approve Resolution 13-15 was made by Commissioner Markel and seconded by Commissioner Mountain. The vote was 8-0 in favor with 1 commissioner absent.

c. Resolution 13-16 Administrative Code Change Chapter 86

Deputy Director Korum introduced Resolution 13-16 to the Commission and explained the purpose of this resolution is to change Administrative Code Chapter 86 to allow the Department to enter into longer term leases with qualified service partners who are investing significant capital into the facility they are leasing. Public comment from Peggy Lynch from Friends of the Parks and Trails was heard. Ms. Lynch asked the board to consider delaying the vote on the resolution until a later date so the public could have a chance to review and comment on the proposed changes. Commissioner Markel asked if delaying the vote would have any negative impacts on agreements currently being worked on. Director Hahm said delaying the vote would not have any impacts on current projects.

Commissioner Haley made a motion to delay voting on the resolution until the December Parks Commission meeting and Commissioner Bishop seconded. The vote was 8-0 with 1 commissioner absent.

d. Resolution 13-17 Baker/SPPS Property Swap

Brad Meyer presented resolution 13-17 to the Commission and explained the resolution has support from both the Saint Paul Public Schools and the Department of Parks and Recreation. The swap involves the Department of Parks and Recreation owned properties at 209 W. Page and 2188 Londin Lane and the Saint Paul Public Schools property located at 1041 Marion Street. The total amount of land being offered by the City of Saint Paul is 7868 square feet valued at \$38,000 and the total amount offered by the School District is 8241 square feet valued at \$35,000.

A motion to approve Resolution 13-17 was made by Commissioner Mountain and seconded by Commissioner Markel. The vote was 8-0 in favor with 1 commissioner absent.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Suggestions for Annual Planning Retreat

Director Hahm said that he will instruct his staff to prepare the same type of reports that were prepared in past years for the annual planning retreat. Part of the time during the planning retreat will be dedicated to working on the specific topic of Service Partnerships at Recreation Centers.

b. EAB Management Plan Update

Cy Kosel presented a status update to the Commissioners on the current EAB Management Program. Cy commented that EAB continues to spread across the City and the metro area with new infestations found in Roseville and New Brighton. Winter is the best time to find new infestations and it is anticipated that additional infestations will be found over the winter months. The Department will exceed its goal of removing 1,100 non infested but declining ash trees as part of the structured removal program.

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. Budget Update

Director Hahm reported that the proposed budget contains additional EAB management funded through the Right of Way program and a possibility for an expansion of Recreation Services to take place.

b. Golf Request for Proposals

Susie Odegard presented the Commissioners with an update on the Golf RFP that was released on November 8 and told the Commission the RFP is on an accelerated schedule. The reason for the accelerated schedule is because if suitable partner is found it would give them time to prepare for next year's season. Susie explained that the Golf program has been in decline for a number of years and has been a part of the Park Commission work plan for the past three years. The Golf RFP has been discussed in the past as part of the Golf Performance Plans. Director Hahm commented that should a suitable partner arise from the RFP process, a special meeting of the Parks Commission will need to be called should the regular schedule not be able to accommodate a review.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

a. Como Regional Park Advisory Committee – Commissioner Marckel

Has received numerous comments related to the Golf RFP

b. Blooming Saint Paul – Commissioner Mountain

No Update

c. Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission – Commissioner Trecka

No Update.

d. Trees Advisory Committee – Commissioner Goodlow

No Update

e. Victoria Park – Commissioner Shively

Final meeting on December 3 and will hopefully have a plan before the Commission in February.

f. Community Engagement Reports

g. Other Reports

6. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Markel and seconded by Commissioner Haley. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.