

## September 2014 Meeting Minutes

**September 10, 2014**  
**Merriam Park Recreation Center**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Susan Bishop, Erick Goodlow, Dave Haley, Dan Marckel, Betsy Mowry-Voss, Emily Shively, Andy Trcka, Salina Vang

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Mountain

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michael Hahm, Clare Cloyd, Michelle Furrer, Mark Granlund, Gary Korum, Kathy Korum, Tabitha Mitchell, Tom Russell

**GUESTS:** Breanna Simon, Karimah Green, Keondra Kelly, Quinn Graham, Shirley Erstad, Jane McClure

### 1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Trcka at 6:32 p.m.
- b. Commissioner Haley moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Shively seconded the motion. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one commissioner absent.
- c. A motion to approve the July 2014 minutes was made by Commissioner Goodlow and seconded by Commissioner Bishop. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one commissioner absent.

### 2. PUBLIC HEARING

No public comments. A motion to close public comments was made by Commissioner Haley and seconded by Commissioner Bishop. The vote was 8-0 in favor of closing public comments. Public comments were closed at 6:40 p.m.

### 3. DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

#### a. Golf Discussion- Susie Odegard

Susie Odegard, Special Services Manager, discussed the current status of the golf program and various marketing and communication efforts that have been put into place for the 2014 season. She noted that the new agreement with Prom Management requires various performance measures to be met as part of ongoing operations and the Special Services Manager will monitor this on an ongoing basis. At this time, the new agreement is performing as planned, and positive results have been seen, including during the mid/half season evaluation.

A new liquor license and clubhouse enhancements at Highland National were discussed and Don Siggelkow from Prom Management joined in to talk about enhancements at Como and Phalen Golf Courses, specifically noting that Prom has already invested nearly \$150,000 in facilities and redesigned bar/restaurant space, and will continue to invest into the courses in the coming years.



Despite record breaking rainfall in June which caused a slow start to the season, performance at the Highland Campus is expected to operate within \$100,000 of break-even, minus the bond payment.

#### **4. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **a. Resolution 14-12 Western Park Name Change**

Gary Korum introduced this resolution and discussed community support for the proposed name change

**A motion was made by Commissioner Shively and seconded by Commissioner Mowry to approve Resolution #14-12. The vote was 8 to 0 in favor with one commissioner absent.**

#### **5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

##### **a. Como Action Plan- Michelle Furrer**

Michelle Furrer, Como Campus Manager, presented the action plan for Como Park Zoo & Conservatory. She focused on transportation efforts which will be an integral part of the plan moving forward. She also discussed funding grants for several new gardens, including a garden that will be completed in June as part of the 100 year anniversary of the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory.

##### **b. Youth Commission Inductees- Tabitha Mitchell**

Tabitha Mitchell, Community Youth Worker, introduced the new inductees to the Youth Commission and discussed the three main philanthropy projects they will focus their efforts on this year. Commission members introduced themselves to the Youth Commission and discussed some of their sub-committee projects. It was noted that the Youth Commission is organized as part of the structure of the Parks Commission.

##### **c. Community Orchard Policy- Mark Granlund**

Mark Granlund presented the proposed Community Orchard Policy (as part of the revised Community Garden Policy) to the Commission Members. He noted the various rules and regulations and explained the expectations of interested community members. Director Hahm indicated he was looking for support to get this policy in place with the idea that as members of the community begin planting orchards, more will be learned and the policy will continue to be adjusted and enhanced. Commissioner Haley moved to approve the policy and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Mowry. The policy was approved 8-0 with one commissioner absent.

#### **6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**a. Dickerman Park**

Director Hahm discussed the \$2 million dollars proposed to Dickerman Park from the Mayor's 2015 budget. He requested representation from the Commission for a Design Advisory Committee and the Commission designated Betsy Mowry-Voss as their primary representative and Emily Shively as a secondary representative.

**b. Other Reports**

Director Hahm announced a recent Garden Club donation that will go to fund planning for the revitalization of Rice Park.

Director Hahm also noted various Parks and Recreation projects that received funding from the Mayor's 2015 proposed budget and gave the current status and timeline for the Como Lakeside Pavilion RFP process.

**7. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

**a. Como Regional Park Committee – Commissioner Marckel**

Commissioner Marckel mentioned that Como golf and the Como Pavilion RFP were discussed at the latest committee meeting.

**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. Community Engagement Reports**

**f. Other Reports**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Haley and seconded by Commissioner Marckel. The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.