

**MINUTES**  
**Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center**  
**800 Conway St.**  
**Thursday, March 9, 2017**  
**6:30-8:00 p.m. – meeting**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Susan Bishop, Rafael Espinosa, , Dan Marckel, John Mountain, Andy Trcka, SuChann Yang  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Clara Haycraft, Melvin Robinson, Emily Shively,  
**STAFF PRESENT:** Mike Hahm, Andy Rodriguez, Bonnie Stokes, Michelle Freeman, Ahmed Mohamed, Joan Phillips  
**GUESTS:** Mike Richardson, Planning and Economic Development; Shirley Erstad, Friends of the Parks & Trails

**1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Trcka at 6:30 p.m.
- A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Marckel and seconded by Commissioner Bishop. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent (Haycraft, Robinson, Shively).
- A motion to approve the February 2017 minutes was made by Commissioner Bishop and seconded by Commissioner Yang. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent (Haycraft, Robinson, Shively).

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

- Shirley Erstad, Friends of the Parks and Trails, addressed the commissioners and provided information on the Friends of the Parks and Trails Annual Tree Sale.

**3. DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT**

- A. Recreation Services 2017 Programming Updates – Recreation Services
- Information was presented by Andy Rodriguez, Program Supervisor, Bonnie Stokes, Community Rec Director and Michelle Freeman, Community Rec Specialist on 2017 budget investments such as extended rec center hours, an additional Community Youth Worker position, mobile rec, and fee based programming changes in concentrated areas of poverty.

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Res 17-02 – Management Agreement with Saint Paul Urban Tennis for the Eastview Recreation Center – Andy Rodriguez
- Andy Rodriguez, Program Supervisor, presented a staff report on the resolution,
  - Commissioner Yang motioned to approve the resolution; Commissioner Mountain seconded the motion. The vote was 6-0 with three commissioners absent (Haycraft, Robinson, Shively).

**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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- A. Update on the Parks Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan – Mike Richardson, Planning & Economic Development
  - New Parks Opportunities
  - Park Zoning
  - Service Partnerships
  - Mike Richardson, Planning & Economic Development, attended the meeting and provided the Commission with an update on community engagement efforts leading up to the outline draft of the chapter and the structure put in place to review and develop the content. A draft outline of the Parks Chapter was reviewed with the Commission. The finalized version of the Comprehensive Plan is expected to be less dense, more user-friendly and broader in terms of policy.
  - Mike Richardson anticipates returning to the Commission in the coming months with additional specificity on the framework presented at the meeting.
  - Commissioner Marckel noted that the desired research listed in the outline is similar to what is on the Met Council wish-list and suggested the potential for a shared economy of scale to accomplish the task; Commissioner Bishop discussed planning efforts.
- B. Recreation Facility Use Data, Impact of Fee Based Services – Andy Rodriguez
  - Andy Rodriguez, Program Supervisor, presented information on anticipated research by the City of Saint Paul Innovation Team as it relates to fee based programming inequity in concentrated areas of poverty. A project scope of services is anticipated in the next few months.
- C. Racial Equity Work – Ahmed Mohamed representing the Parks & Recreation Racial Equity Change Team
  - Ahmed Mohamed, Administration, Finance & Planning presented information on the work that has been done by the Department of Parks and Recreation as it relates to the City of Saint Paul's Racial Equity Initiative and the Parks and Recreation Racial Equity Change Team.

## 6. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Parks Asset Management Presentation at the Feb. 13, 2017 Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee
  - Director Hahm and the Commission discussed the presentation to the CIB Committee in April. A final report is due in May with data and recommendations
- B. Director Hahm reported the following:
  - Res 17-01 Lease Agreement with the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center is expected to advance to the City Council upon final completion of financials
  - Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board passed a no-smoking policy and that the City of Saint Paul will assess for best practices policy
  - The Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) took action to acquire property at the Westgate site and that the Commission should anticipate transfer of the property to Parks and Recreation by the end of the year;
  - There had been no action on Res 16-08 Res 16-08 Victoria Park Renaming by the Fort Road Federation. Staff will check in to determine an anticipated date for future meetings.
  - Alice Messer was hired as the Design and Construction Manager.
  - The Department had participated in an announcement of Super Bowl Legacy Funds dedicated to the construction of sepak takraw courts at the Duluth and Case Rec Center and Marydale Park.

## 7. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

- A. Como Regional Park Committee – Commissioner Marckel
  - Commissioner Marckel reported that a meeting was scheduled for the following week and he anticipated a discussion on bicycle and pedestrian changes.

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- B. Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission – Chair Trcka
  - Per Chair Trcka, no meeting had been held.
- C. Scheffer Design Advisory Committee – Commissioner Robinson
  - Commissioner Robinson was absent from the meeting. No update.
- D. Community Engagement Reports
  - Nothing additional.
- E. Other Reports
  - Commissioner Mountain reported that he had attended the Ford meeting on zones; Chair Trcka reported attendance at the 8-80 Focus Group for the Grand Rounds.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chair Trcka Marckel and seconded by Commissioner Bishop. The vote was 6 to 0 in favor with three commissioners absent (Haycraft, Robinson, Shively).
- The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.