

MINUTES
Langford Rec Center
30 Langford Park
Thursday, February 8, 2018
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. – meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Susan Bishop, Sara Chamberlain, Dan Marckel, John Mountain, Andy Trcka,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Melvin Robinson, SuChann Yang, Rafael Espinosa, Clara Haycraft

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Hahm, Liz Wagoner, Kathy Korum, Bianca Paz, Brett Hussong, Susie VanBlaircom, Michelle Furrer, Courtney Moriarty, Gina Stokes

GUESTS: Michael Kuchta, Shirley Erstad, Bart Bevins

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Trcka at 6:39 p.m.
- A motion to approve the agenda was made by Vice Chair Bishop and seconded by Commissioner Chamberlain. The vote was 5 to 0 in favor with four commissioners absent (Espinosa, Haycraft, Robinson, Yang).
- A motion to approve the January 2018 minutes was made by Commissioner Chamberlain and seconded by Vice Chair Bishop. The vote was 5 to 0 in favor with four commissioners absent (Espinosa, Haycraft, Robinson, Yang).

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- No one reserved the right to speak.

3. SERVICE UPDATE WITH EQUITY FOCUS

- Susie VanBlaircom and Michelle Furrer presented on behalf of the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory regarding their efforts to reach out to underserved populations of school children in Saint Paul and throughout the state, including providing age appropriate and culturally appropriate learning materials, free transportation and free programming to schools.

4. ACTION ITEMS

A. Res 18-01 – Como Friends Seals & Sea Lions Donor Recognition

- Michelle Furrer provided an overview of the Como Friends Seals and Sea Lions Donor Recognition plan.
- Director Hahm noted this plan is consistent with other donor recognition plans at the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory in the past.
- Commissioner Marckel motioned to approve the resolution; Commissioner Chamberlain seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor with four commissioners absent (Espinosa, Haycraft, Robinson, Yang).

B. Res 18-02 - Lower Landing Park Renovation Master Plan



- Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Design and Construction team members Bianca Paz and Brett Hussong presented an overview of the Lower Landing Park Renovation Master Plan to the Commission.
- Chair Trcka raised concerns regarding safety, including bike speed and homeless populations. Paz and Hussong explained how the issues would be addressed through design.
- Vice Chair Bishop asked about the plan's relationship to the River Balcony project. Paz and Hussong spoke to the connection between the two projects.
- Chair Trcka motioned to approve the resolution; Vice Chair Bishop seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor with four commissioners absent (Espinosa, Haycraft, Robinson, Yang).

C. **Res 18-03 - Como Lakeside Pavilion Management Contract**

- Liz Wagoner read a message from Commissioner Haycraft, who was not present, in support of Res 18-03. Commissioner Haycraft's only concern was the 11am open time during the week, which she felt should be earlier.
- Commissioner Chamberlin motioned to approve the resolution; Commissioner Marckel seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 in favor with four commissioners absent (Espinosa, Haycraft, Robinson, Yang).

5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. **ADA Plan**

- Kathy Korum gave a brief overview of the plan. She said the plan would come back to the Commission for approval in a couple months and before going to the City Council.

B. **Griggs Park Naming**

- Director Hahm named the top two choices – Unity Park and Peace Park.
- The Griggs Park naming resolution will come to the Commission next month.

C. **Bylaws**

- The Commission bylaws were tabled until next month due to time.
- Chair Trcka proposed an election of officers in April.

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Director Hahm noted the importance of using "Parks and Recreation Department" vs. "Parks Department".
- Liz Wagoner will send a link to the recently completed Accreditation Self-Assessment. The review team will visit in the end of April.

7. **SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

A. Como Regional Park Committee – Commissioner Marckel

- Commissioner Marckel noted there was great work being done on a survey about pedestrian trails coinciding with the emerald ash borer project.

B. Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission – Chair Trcka

- Chair Trcka noted that MnDot announced they have found drainage that may contribute to the Fish Hatchery trail problem.
- Mike added that we are working on an additional \$60,000 in grant funding towards the issue.

C. Scheffer Design Advisory Committee – Commissioner Robinson

- No update.

D. Community Engagement Reports

- Nothing additional.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Chamberlain and seconded by Commissioner Mountain. The vote was 5 to 0 with four commissioners absent (Espinosa,

- Haycraft, Robinson, Yang).
- The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.