

RAMSEY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

July 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

RAMSEY COUNTY LIBRARY – ROSEVILLE

The meeting of the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Gale Pederson at 6:05 p.m. at the Roseville County Library, 2180 Hamline Avenue N., Roseville, MN.

Attendance: Cedrick Baker, Deb Falkowski, Gale Pederson, Candy Petersen, Rich Straumann, Kong Vang

Absent: Metric Giles, Bryan Shirley, Brian Tempas

Staff: Jon Oyanagi, Shar Whebbe

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of the agenda was so moved with no changes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rich Straumann moved for approval of the June 10, 2016 minutes with no changes, seconded by Kong Vang.

Motion carried.

RACIAL EQUITY TOOLKIT

Jon Oyanagi

The toolkit was developed by the Community Development/Regional Parks and Natural Resources department to measure and analyze who is using our parks and programs, and how to improve access for those who are not using these resources. The Parks and Open Space Council adopted these policies in June 2016, and the toolkit will move on to the Met Council. Parks & Recreation will begin using this toolkit to analyze both capital improvement projects and Legacy Grant funded programs.

Informational only; no motion.

COMMUNITY VISIBILITY

Jon Oyanagi

Parks & Recreation has a booth at the Ramsey County Fair this year, and staff continues to research other opportunities to increase community visibility. The Commission entertained a discussion regarding the benefit of this type of community engagement and recognizes the importance of being available to the citizens we serve.

Informational only; no motion.

POPLAR PARK

Jon Oyanagi

Poplar Lake County Park is the last undeveloped park in the Ramsey County system. Residents in the North Oaks/Shoreview area are looking for more soccer fields and made a request to County Commissioner Blake Huffman to evaluate the possibility of developing this area. This development would impact both the current Parks & Recreation projects and the cost would be covered by the Ramsey County general budget. The cost to develop the master plan could be up to \$300,000 and the funding request as part of the 2018-19 Budget cycle. The commission requests additional demographic information from staff.

Rich Straumann motioned to begin gathering additional information in consideration of beginning the master planning process for Poplar Lake County Park, seconded by Gale Pederson.

Motion carried.

PARK TOUR

The annual park tour is scheduled for August 10, 2016 and a tentative itinerary was discussed. Staff will invite the Friends of the Parks group to participate in the tour as well.

Informational only; no motion

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Rice Creek North – The most current photos of the project were reviewed. The project is progressing on schedule.
- B. Tuj Lub Grand Opening – The Grand Opening was planned for September 2016, but staff will be talking with the Tuj Lub group about moving that back to May 2017. The project is progressing on schedule but may require more time to allow the grass to grow stronger.

REPORT FROM CHAIR

- A. A letter was signed in support of staff seeking funding through a federal grant for the Bruce Vento Regional Trail.
- B. The Energy Task Force has its final meeting this month and will be submitting a final report of recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn 7:26 p.m.

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shar Whebbe