

RAMSEY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 9, 2016, 6:00 p.m.
RAMSEY COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION TRAINING ROOM

The meeting of the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Gale Pederson at 6:02 pm at Parks and Recreation, 2015 Van Dyke St, Maplewood, MN – Training Room.

Attendance: Metric Giles, Deb Falkowski, Candy Petersen, Gale Pederson, Brian Tempas

Absent: Cedrick Baker, Bryan Shirley, Rich Straumann, Kong Vang

Staff: Jon Oyanagi, Ryan Reis, Sharon Chute

Visitors: Amy Anderson (Minnesota Civic Youth)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of the agenda was so moved with no changes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Gale Pederson moved for approval of the October 12, 2016 minutes with no changes, seconded by Brian Tempas.
Motion carried.

YOUTH COMMISSION MEMBERS

Guest, Amy Anderson, Executive Director, Minnesota Civic Youth

Two high school students will be appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission after they have received training. No academic credit is provided; transportation assistance is provided. Student members will serve on board for 15 months (including summer). Resources will be provided to the commission to assist with the transition. The commission will have opportunity to orient students. Placement of student members will take place in early 2017. Metric Giles requests seeing the resume of Tiffany, the program facilitator from Minnesota Civic Youth. Gale Pederson shared that Roseville Park Board found having youth representatives very beneficial.
Informational only; no motion.

ENERGY PLAN

Ryan Reis

Xcel Energy offers a fairly new Energy Partnership Program. Ramsey County Parks and Recreation would be the first County and department to participate in the program. So far there have been 5 meetings at over 3 hours each over the last 4 months. Three goals have been identified; 1. Energy reduction of 35% by 2025, 2. Design county park standards to get close to net zero energy use, 3. Education and outreach to employees and users. Currently, the plan doesn't incorporate water usage as an energy source. The plan is to include this in the future as department usage of water is significant from arenas, water park, and golf courses. Review of the Energy Action Plan topic will be added to next agenda with comments from Rich Straumann, who served on the committee.
Informational only; no motion.

REVIEW DRAFT OF 2015/16 STATE OF THE PARKS AND TRAILS REPORT

Jon Oyanagi

The report will be provided at the next meeting. Members are to think about what 2016 highlights and 2017 plans they want mentioned. Gale Pederson will represent the commission when the plan is presented to the county commissioners. Other board members are encouraged to attend this meeting as well. Date of board meeting will be announced in advance.

Informational only; no motion.

DECEMBER PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA

Jon Oyanagi

Topics include;

- Park Programs – Ken Pelto
- Park Ordinance includes final draft for review
- Finalized State of the Parks and Trails report
- Work Plan
- Energy Plan review
- Information on Snail Lake Park (underwater)

Informational only; no motion.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Jon Oyanagi

1. December Meeting – holiday meeting; bring a treat to share
2. County Board Arena Tour – November 22, 2016; tour includes Pleasant, Highland, Oscar Johnson, Aldrich and Phalen. These buildings will provide a full range of facility architecture that encompasses system.
3. Trout Brook Regional Trail – public comment and input phase will include 3 meetings that will take place in February and March, 2017 and will include focus groups.
4. Bruce Vento Regional Trail – Federal funding was applied for with no funding expected. We will try again.
5. Lake Owasso Redevelopment – Public meetings well attended by lakeshore owners. Public input meeting 11/17/16, 6PM at Marsden Room at Public Works. Final input meeting TBD. Comments are also accepted online.
6. Tamarack Nature Center Site Improvements – Remodel of nature center complete, new parking lot construction in progress. Old parking lot is being turned into overflow parking. Project will continue through winter.

REPORT FROM CHAIR AND OTHER COMMISSION MEMBERS

Congratulations were given Metric Giles for winning a Community Leadership Award.

Metric talked about equality within the arenas. He requested the committee discuss roller rinks as an option within the parks system.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn at 7:02 pm.

Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Chute