

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS Thursday, August 16, 2018

At 2:30 pm, Thursday, August 16, 2018, Chairman Carlson called the meeting of the Chisago County Park Board of Directors with the following members present: DuBose, Carlson, Kaiser, Sicheneder and Storm. Absent: none. Also present: Laird Mork, Park Director; Mike Robinson, County Commissioner; Kurt Schneider, Environmental Services Director; Ken Roberts, Chisago County Planner; and Meeting Recorder Deb Johnson.

Director Kaiser offered a motion to approve the Agenda for the Board of Directors meeting, with the addition of New Business: Bike Friendly Community Assessment, offered by Director Carlson. Second by Director Storm and **carried unanimously**.

Director Kaiser offered a motion to approve the minutes of July 19, 2018, with one correction, date of meeting correction. Second by Director Sicheneder and **carried unanimously**.

A request was received from LARA to add an additional ballfield at Ki-Chi-Saga Park. Park Board directors believe this area would infringe on the lacrosse field playing areas currently used. Discussion held on current trends of increase in lacrosse, decrease in baseball, additional traffic and parking concerns. **Director DuBose offered a motion** to deny the request due to increased traffic and parking concerns. Second by Director Storm and **carried unanimously**.

A request was received from LARA Lacrosse group to add a building at Ki-Chi-Saga Park for storage of equipment, nets, etc. near the center of the park and just south of the cul-de-sac. The county currently has a storage building located near the periphery of the park property for equipment, which also has a small separate storage area for the adult ball league storage of equipment. Discussion held on who would own, maintain the structure, liability issues, and the need for an agreement to be reviewed by the County Attorney. The Park Director will investigate how other parks are handling building storage requests. **Director DuBose offered a motion** to consider a building proposal in concept in the vicinity of the existing county building and to bring back addition information for consideration.

Director DuBose reported on a meeting held regarding the mountain bike trail. The trail has been reviewed, marked and will be proceeding.

The Park Director met with Joe Czapiewski, GMRPTC Legacy Fund Staff, Mork & Czapiewski surveyed the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail. Czapiewski appreciated the quality of the trail. Czapiewski also reviewed some budget details. In regard to the Sunrise Prairie Trail application Czapiewski noted that contingency funds are not an allowable budget item and requested that the application and budget be revised. The connection project to Center City was also reviewed. There are new grant requirements in place now requiring appraisal being completed and property options secured identified with grant submittal.

The Park Director attended a meeting with the Sno Drifter Snowmobile Club to review various options for winter trail operations and grooming. After multiple attempts with Wild River Snowmobile Club for regular grooming and to improve preservation of the newly paved surface the Park Board recently changed county policy for winter operation. Part of that policy is to work with one club for the entire trail corridor. Due to proximity and past experience the park board director Mork to provide the

opportunity to the Sno Drifter Snowmobile Club. Sno Drifter Snowmobile Club has accepted the additional miles, the State Wild River Club have been notified of the changes.

The grant award contract has not been received for the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail, Interstate Park Connection Project which the legislature has approved. The Park Director updated the Board on the trail construction project, Segment F. Earthwork has been completed, paving needs to be completed. The Board approved the paving contract yesterday. Paving could be completed by Shafer Days, 9/15, for a possible grand opening event. Discussion held on Segment B & D to complete the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail from Shafer to Center City (D) and from Chisago City to Wyoming (B). An application has been submitted to explore routes to complete both sections.

Ken Roberts, Chisago County Planner, was present to review with the Board the Fish Lake Park survey responses. Currently 89% of responses have been from Chisago County residents. Notices were mailed out regarding the survey to land owners surrounding the park and lake. Whereas a public meeting is not required prior to approving the Master Plan, it was discussed that the plan could be reviewed at the Fish Lake Township meeting to gather resident and Township Supervisor comments. Ken Roberts, Chisago County Planner, will contact Fish Lake Township to arrange. Ken reviewed plan costs, separated in three phases. Discussion was held on which items should be included in the each phase. Consensus of the Board to make sure these plans are “proposed/concept only” and subject to change in the plan.

Kurt Schneider, Environmental Services Director, reviewed with the Board a proposed Park Bench Donation Program, brochure and program regulations, for consideration. A request has been received to place a memorial bench at Fish Lake Park. **Director DuBose offered a motion** to approve the Park Bench Donation Program, brochure and regulations and to add the ability to accept other donations, such as a tree, table, etc. Second by Director Kaiser and **carried unanimously**.

Chisago City, Lindstrom and Center City will be holding a meeting on September 12, to complete a bike friendly community assessment. The cities received grant funding for the assessment. The Park Director and Director Carlson are planning to attend. All are invited to attend. The Park Director will send out notice of the meeting to the Parks & Trails Foundation.

Director Kaiser offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 pm. Second by Director Storm and **carried unanimously**.

Next meeting scheduled for September 20, 2018.

Gregg Carlson, Chair

Attest:

Laird Mork
Parks Director