

CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Thursday, August 19, 2021

At 3:00 pm, Thursday, August 19, 2021 Chair Wille called the meeting of the Chisago County Park Board of Directors at the Chisago County Government Center. The following members present: Jolene Wille, Dan Kaiser, Frank Storm, Jill Sicheneder and Gregg Carlson. Also present: County Commissioner Mike Robinson, Kelly Dumais; City of Wyoming, County Commissioner Ben Montzka, Joe Tart; Park Director and Diane Sander; Support Specialist.

Meeting Summary:

- Unanimously the Board approved the agenda
- Unanimously the Board approved the amended June 17, 2021 meeting minutes
- Unanimously the Board approved support City of Wyoming's Railroad Park Project and recommend the County Board determine the financial support.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Wille.

Motion by Frank Storm to approve the agenda. Second by Gregg Carlson and carried unanimously.

Gregg Carlson identified a minor correction. "Ms. Peehl has indicated she would like an organization to establish a nature ~~reserve~~ preserve." Motion by Gregg Carlson to approve the amended June 17, 2021 minutes. Second by Dan Kaiser and carried unanimously.

City of Wyoming – Railroad Park

Kelly Dumais, Assistant City Administrator of Wyoming presented on the Railroad Park project at the corner of Forest Boulevard and East Viking Boulevard. The project includes three main elements: history walk, veterans memorial and trailhead. The trailhead would be a trail spur off the Sunrise Prairie Regional Trail. City of Wyoming was asking for financial assistance and support. Park Board discussed the screening, project funding and timeline, and grant applications. City of Lindstrom's Veteran Memorial was discussed along with County Board financial support for the project. **Motion** by Dan Kaiser for the Park Board to support the City of Wyoming's Railroad Park Project and recommend the County Board determine the financial support. Second by Gregg Carlson and carried unanimously.

SIRT – Interstate State Park Final Report

Director Tart reviewed the overall Interstate State Park project, highlighting different segments, feasibility study and overall budget. Total Project Spent was \$1,859,109 and Total Budget was \$2,254,000. A total of \$394,891 has been returned to Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ETF). The grant project had a large amount of cost savings in County engineering and DNR provided resources, reduced length of the trail bridge, and Segment C was not constructed; however, trail feasibility study was completed. The grant funding/budget was managed and amended for unexpected complexities during the construction phase.

Grant Awards

Checkerboard Park – Selected for funding from the Natural and Scenic Area Grant Program for \$44,800. Minnesota Department of Administration State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) conducted a review and determined no known archaeological properties in the surrounding area of Checkerboard park will be impacted.

Sunrise Prairie Regional Trail (SPRT) – Selected for funding in the amount of \$1,182,282. A total of \$214,250 is matching funds from Chisago County Trails Foundation and County Board. Anticipated to be construction in the spring of 2022. Currently working on grant contract and gathering construction/engineering services.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) 2022-2026

Director Tart reviewed the capital improvement project request with a five-year outlook. Three main categories in the request include: upgrade utilities/pavement/gravel; replace/purchase equipment; and grant match/easement. County Board will review and approve CIP by October.

Administrative Updates

Director Tart provided an overview of administrative projects that included: LCCMR work plan update/abstract, ENRTF final grant reimbursement, grant applications, developing CIP request, and budget management.

Staff Report

Park and Trail Maintenance – All shelters have been stained, playground mulch has been added to sites, landscaped beds have been cleaned up, hiking trail at Fish Lake Park has been brushed, pavement repairs completed on SIRT, replaced and added signage, and repaired some concrete slabs. Staff has continued swimming area monitoring, updating shelter and athletic reservations, reviewing large event applications, preparing pollinator planting areas and prep work for installing kiosks at Tern Avenue and Shafer locations.

Adjourn – Motion by Dan Kaiser to adjourn the meeting. Second by Frank Storm and carried unanimously.