

CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD  
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
Thursday, August 18, 2016

At 2:45 pm, Thursday, August 18, 2016, Chairman Kaiser called the meeting of the Chisago County Park Board of Directors with the following members present: DuBose, Carlson, Kaiser, Sicheneder and Sutcliffe. Also present: Joyce Anastasi and John Ehret with the Lake Improvement District (LID), John Olinger Representing the Water Trails Group, Mike Robinson, County Commissioners, Kurt Schneider, Environmental Services Director, Park Director Laird Mork.

Director Carlson offered a motion to approve the Agenda for the Board of Directors meeting. Second by Sutcliffe and **carried unanimously**.

Director Sutcliffe offered a motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2016. Second by Director Sicheneder and **carried unanimously**.

Strand/Johnson parcel on Chisago Lake, discussion regarding details. Kurt provided information as shared by the county board on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Attached. Follow up discussion centered around details needed, price, parcels, local share plan, timelines and the need for access to the site. Mork asked park board members if access and other details are sufficiently outlined to bring a request for board action. Robinson noted that he didn't believe the county board would take action without some of these basic details in place. Generally there was concurrence that access to the site was an imperative part of any application that would be supported under county involvement. If this is not possible then the county park system is the wrong entity to hold the parcel. This may not be necessary if TPL or others wanted to take a different direction such as a WMA or AMA. John Ehert noted that he would set up a meeting with property owners and TPL to try to generate some of the details needed.

Lindstrom City Administrator and Water Trails Organizer John Olinger addressed the Park Board. Olinger shared information about the water trails project and showed a map that they have been working on. Olinger shared information about the experience the water trail would provide. Olinger shared information on the various routes and locations that will be participating. Olinger shared the interest of the organization to include access into and across the Ki-Chi-Saga Park and then down to Lynn Lake. Also, reiterated the interest in providing some primitive camping sites on the southwest corner of Ki-Chi-Saga Park near the Lynn Lake access point. Details will need to be outlined before any request could be prepared for the board.

A Swedish Immigrant Trail Meeting is scheduled with MN DNR Parks and Trails staff in Taylors Falls Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. City Hall. The question, what is on state park officials agenda? Where do they hope to go with the meeting? Secondly they reflected on what should be on the County's agenda for the meeting. It was determined that a successful outcome would include;

- The State recognizes that the trail needs a logical connection to the park and the city of Taylors Falls.
- State identifies this a priority project
- The State works to allocate or secure funding.
- Finally that the state would provide a timeline.

An acceptable timeline to provide access to the east end of the new section trail not determined.

East End Project celebration plans. The ABC group is planning to have a nationally renowned speaker Dan Buettner back Wednesday September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. We are working on including the Blue Zone group with our completion celebration. More detail will be provided when determined.

Also noted, the Parks and Trails Foundation pledged \$2,000 dollars for some planting materials and \$5,000 to assist with site amenities & a sign. This will provide for the purchase of two tables, three benches, some trees and other planting materials. This does not include installation costs which will be covered by the county.

Swedish Immigrant Trail connection project, report was provide on a meeting with Steve Young, land acquisition consultant with the Parks and Trails Council of MN. Mr. Young met with Chisago County and reaffirmed that the Council has authorized and is prepared to assist with funding the cost of acquisition as brought forward pertaining to the SIRT. Young noted that there would be an agreement that outlined a timeline in which the Council would then sell the parcel to Chisago County. They typically provide a 4 year window with some flexibility if a grant is being pursued.

Kurt provided updates on land acquisition efforts which included some progress toward key parcels and still some parcels that would need additional work.

Other trail business in 2017, County Highway Engineer Joe Triplett indicates he will work with County Env. Services Parks Division to process the Sunrise Prairie Trail paving project. In specific assisting with the engineering and bid documents.

Sicheneder reported that she had been out to ride/survey two SIRT trail segments. One in Shafer and then the east end project. Sicheneder reported that the trails provided a nice ride. She indicated that she had talked with the STS Crew Leader Dan Nesgoda who was out with a small crew working on brushing the trails back. Sicheneder provided a positive report on the crew leader and work that was being completed by the participants.

Park Board roundtable will be tabled until the next meeting, to include discussion on potential development of primitive campground sites at Ki-Chi-Saga and carry in access onto South Center Lake across Grader Blvd.

Director Sicheneder offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:00pm. Motion seconded by Director Sutcliffe and **carried unanimously**.

Next meeting set for September 22, 2016.

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Dan Kaiser, Chair