

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
390 N. Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101

MEETING OF
METROPOLITAN PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

October 7, 2008

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Glen Skovholt, Chair, Barb Schmidt, Gary Botzek, Richard Jabs, Bob Moeller, Robert Wicklund, Daniel Shlaferman, Dan Wolter, Metropolitan Council Liaison to the Commission

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Skovholt called the meeting of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to order at 4:00 p.m. on October 7, 2008.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

Commissioner Jabs motioned and Commissioner Moeller seconded to approve the October 7, 2008 Agenda and the September 8, 2008 Minutes.

PUBLIC INVITATION: Invitation to Interested Persons to Address the Commission on Matters Not on the Agenda (Each speaker is limited to a five-minute presentation.)

None.

BUSINESS:

(2008-267) Acquisition Opportunity Grant Request to Purchase Bauduin Parcel for Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, Three Rivers Park District - Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Stefferud discussed the grant request by Three Rivers Park District from the Land Acquisition Opportunity Account for the acquisition of the 1.59-acre Bauduin parcel, which includes a home and 207 feet of shoreline on the Crow River in Lake Rebecca Park Reserve. The total cost of the acquisition and related expenditures is \$406,300. The Park District requests a Park Acquisition Opportunity grant to finance the acquisition for \$304,725 (using Metro Council bonds only since the grant would partially finance acquisition of the house as well as the land).

Wicklund asked about 'friends in Greenfield' on these parcels. Boe Carlson, Three Rivers Park District discussed the City's history of opposition to the park district acquiring this land. With a change in administration in the City and legal advice, the City has changed their objections and the Park District believes it will be approved.

Skovholt asked about other parcels (4 and 2) in-holdings. Carlson talked about the trail corridor that will connect Lake Rebecca and Crow River. He stated that they have made an offer on parcel 2, but that the owners of parcel 4 are not ready to sell.

The Commission discussed whether a park agency could ask the Metropolitan Council to consider reimbursing the park agency 100% instead of 75% of its costs from the Parks CIP when the Council didn't have sufficient funds to award a Park Acquisition Opportunity grant at that time.

The Commission requested Metropolitan Council staff to prepare this memorandum that explains what amount of regional park system land acquisition costs financed by a regional park agency would be eligible for Parks CIP reimbursement consideration.

Stefferud stated that he would do this for the next MPOSC meeting.

It was recommended by Commissioner Wicklund and seconded by Commissioner Botzek that the Metropolitan Council authorize a grant of \$304,725 from the Land Acquisition Opportunity Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Three Rivers Park District to partially finance the acquisition of the 1.59-acre Bauduin parcel for Lake Rebecca Park Reserve. **The motion carried.**

(2008-268) Acquisition Opportunity Grant Request to Purchase Westerlund Parcel for Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, Three Rivers Park District - Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Very similar to the agenda item above, Stefferud discussed Three Rivers Park District request for the Westerlund parcel, which includes a house and shoreline on the Crow River in Lake Rebecca Park Reserve. The total cost of the acquisition and related expenditures is \$657,000. The Park District requested a Park Acquisition Opportunity grant to finance the river shoreline for \$492,750.

It was recommended by Commissioner Wicklund and seconded by Commissioner Shlaferman that the Metropolitan Council authorize a grant of \$492,750 from the Land Acquisition Opportunity Account in the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund to Three Rivers Park District to partially finance the acquisition of the 9.5-acre Westerlund parcel for Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.

Information Item: 2009 LCCMR Funding Proposal for Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grants - Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks

Stefferud gave a review of the presentation he gave to the LCCMR on September 23, 2008. He stated that they were pleased with the idea of their dollars being leveraged with other dollars.

Schmidt asked when a decision will be made. Stefferud stated that he believes it will be in December and noted that they have a schedule on their website. He noted that the Legislature can change the recommendation however.

REPORTS

Chair: Skovholt discussed the upcoming vote for the constitutional amendment and is concerned that there is support, however feel people do not know a lot about it. He noted that a campaign has been launched and we should start seeing commercials, advertisements, etc.

Commissioners: None.

Staff: None.

NEXT MEETING

Stefferud proposed a date change for the next meeting, as it would be November 4 (Election Day). He proposed Monday, November 10, 2008 (as Tuesday, 11/11 is a holiday for the Council).

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Skovholt adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandi Dingle, Executive Secretary

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