

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

Palace Community Center

781 Palace Ave.

6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Haley, Dan Marckel, Emily Shively, Andy Trcka,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Susan Bishop, Erick Goodlow, John Mountain, Betsy Mowry-Voss, Salina Vang

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Hahm, Joan Phillips, Tom Hagel, Andy Rodriguez

GUESTS: Eric Nyberg, Mary McKeowen

1. AGENDA, MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Trcka at 6:35p.m.
- The meeting lacked a quorum so approval of the minutes was laid over to the April meeting.

2. DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

A. Building Trades – Tom Hagel

- Tom Hagel, Building Trades Supervisor, presented the Commissioner with information on maintenance of the departments structures and parkland infrastructures that includes 126 facilities and 213 parks by building trades staff. Topics included work orders, upgrades and improvements, trends, and remaining current with technology in operational systems.

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. Res 16-02 – Merriam Park Recreation Center and Keystone Community Services Agreement – Andy Rodriguez

- Due to lack of a quorum, Director Hahm suggested that the Commission hear the item and request that the minutes reflect the intentions of the Commissioners present.
- Andy Rodriguez, Area Supervisor, presented information on the agreement. The agreement reflects best practices considerations and will improve utilization and accessibility of both entities within the facility, expand hours, provide a seamless customer service model and clearly defines maintenance responsibilities. Staff recommended approval of the resolution.
- Eric Nyberg, Executive Director of Keystone Community Services, also presented information on the agreement and introduced his replacement, Mary McKeowen, upon his retirement on April 1, 2016. Eric discussed the historical background of the partnership that has developed over the years between the organizations.
- Commissioners Haley, Marckel, Shively and Trcka expressed their support of the resolution recommending City Council approval.

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Racial Equity Work

- Joan Phillips presented information from the 2015 Quarter 4 Racial Equity Status Update (dashboard). Quarterly updates (dashboards) will be sent to the Commissioners in the future.



B. Critical Area Update

- Director Hahm informed the Commission of the DNR's date of intent to publish the rules. Upon publication, the Commission can expect future communication on the City's review and any comments that may be made for submission.

C. Grand Round Update

- The consultant's report was not anticipated to be complete until the May meeting; Res 16-01 - Grand Round Design and Implementation Plan was laid over accordingly to the May 2016 meeting.

5. SUBCOMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

A. Como Regional Park Committee – Commissioner Marckel

- Chair Marckel noted that the next meeting of the Como Regional Park Committee is scheduled for April 5, 2016 and he will report back at the April meeting.

B. Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission – Chair Trcka

- Chair Trcka noted that Mn/DOT has plans for a bicycle highway from Saint Paul to Grand Portage that will be similar to US Bikeway 40 (a multi-state trail that runs the length of the Mississippi River that is recognized as a national highway).

C. Trees – Commissioner Goodlow

- No update.

D. Hwy 5/Shepard Rd. Access Options Study Community Advisory Group – Commissioner Mountain

- No update.

E. Grand Rounds Advisory Committee – Chair Trcka

- No update.

F. Community Engagement Reports

- No update.

G. Other Reports

- Shirley Erstad, Friends of the Parks & Trails, spoke about the future closing of Totem Town.

6. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.