

**City of Ramsey**  
**Agenda**  
**Park and Recreation Commission**  
**Thursday April 14, 2011**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Council Chambers, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Citizen Input**
3. **Approve Agenda**
4. **Approve Minutes**
  1. Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes
5. **Commission Business**
  1. Review Collaborative between Ramsey and County on '*Go-Anoka County* .'
  2. Discuss Outdoor Meeting Schedule.
  3. Define Environmental Expo Planning and Participation
6. **Commission/Staff Input**
  1.
    - Report from HRA meeting – sale of lots relating to North Commons
    - Future case: Review/2011 Update, Park and Trail Plan Map
    - Anticipated Earth Day tree planting at Rhinestone commons with PACT on April 21st at 12:30 PM
7. **Adjournment**

**Park and Recreation Commission**

**Item #: 4. 1.**

**Date: 04/14/2011**

**By:** MaryJo Warner  
Engineering/Public Works

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**Information**

**Title:**

Approve Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

**Background:**

Approve the following Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes:

Regular Meeting minutes dated March 10, 2011

**Funding Source:**

N/A

**Council Action:**

Approve Minutes

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**Attachments**

03.10.11

**Form Review**

**Inbox**

Kurt Ulrich

Form Started By: MaryJo Warner

Final Approval Date: 04/07/2011

**Reviewed By**

Kurt Ulrich

**Date**

04/07/2011 03:18 PM

Started On: 04/05/2011 01:16 PM

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
CITY OF RAMSEY  
ANOKA COUNTY  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on March 10, 2011, at Ramsey Municipal Center, Minnesota.

Commission Members Present:      Vice Chair Angela Olsen  
   Commissioner Bridgett Barr  
   Commissioner Shane Bennett  
   Commissioner Andrew Fyten  
   Commissioner Tom LaMere

Commission Members Absent:      Chairperson Shryock

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Olsen called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

There was none.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Barr to approve the agenda.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Vice Chair Olsen, Commissioners Bennett, Barr, Fyten, and LaMere. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Shryock.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner Fyten seconded by Commissioner Barr, to approve the following Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes:

- 1) Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes dated February 10, 2011.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Vice Chair Olsen, Commissioners Bennett, Barr, Fyten, and LaMere. Voting No: None. Absent: Chairperson Shryock.

**COMMISSION BUSINESS**

**Case #1:      Recommend Park Development Implementation Plan for “North Commons”  
   in the COR**

Park Supervisor Riverblood reviewed in the staff report that throughout the last year it has been discussed initiating park improvements of City owned space in the COR known as 'North

Commons' and that most recently the conversation has included the sale of lots on the west side of this property to fund the proposed development costs.

Development Manager Darren Lazan was present to give a quick overview of the project.

Jonathan Werner 7764 149<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, was present to discuss his concern of the wildlife in this area and asks that the development be kept in its natural state as much as possible. He would like to see a minimally evasive wood chip walking trail around the perimeter around the parcels. He also requested consideration for trail access along Lot One for access for the residents along 149<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Commissioner Barr stated her concern is if we still have a number of large lots available why would we put more into the market right now. Why would we have a better product to offer than what is already there.

Development Manager Lazan responded there is a lot of strategy into how a project comes to market, that additional surplus will affect the pricing, additional foot traffic of different product will increase all those opportunities for builders in this area. In general a more diverse variety of products in there will help all the lots in the area.

Tom Purmort 7842 149<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW stated he has 30 lots in this area and his main concern is he has 15 lots available now. As far as getting a different product out there, he is set to a different building standard over there and feels that there is different ways to raise the revenue. He discussed for example a big anchor store, then those homes will be more apt to sell. Mr. Purmort stated he paid \$1500 per lot to put into a fund and his calculation is a total of \$100,000 and asked what happened to that money for that park.

Park Supervisor Riverblood responded this was discussed at the open-house and explained the main developer went bankrupt and the bank held the property and a lot of things went away. Some of those monies were recaptured and park and streetscape improvements were made and the money is now gone and the entire landscape has changed.

Tom Purmort likes the park idea but now is not the time

Jason Tossey 7788 149<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, he is well aware of this plan, he understands Mr. Purmort's frustrations he also understands the frustration of all the homeowners in the area. There was a plan from the very beginning for a park and would encourage this to go forward and feels this decision is the better one to get this done without really costing taxpayers. If we don't move now on this park under this plan he doesn't think there is going to be a park. Keep in mind, that land is not dedicated as park land and there is nothing to stop the City from developing the whole thing. He expressed we need to be conscience of the builders but not be too evasive to the existing homeowners and he wanted to state that he is in support of this plan.

Bob Brenner, Realtor with RES Realty introduced himself as the listing agent for Purmort Homes for the last three years and has been a realtor since the mid nineties. He stated he has been trying to sell the homes in the 10<sup>th</sup> Addition that have been recently built there and according to the MLS listing that day a total of 12 new lots have been sold since 2008, roughly 4 a year. If information is correct there is about 40 lots available now and currently have about 10 years of inventory already. He stated if you add 7-8 lots in a small area and another 40 more lots

you are doubling what is available for what is already a saturated market and he doesn't feel this is going to raise revenue. Right now they are aggressively marketing them and it is a very slow market and to think these new lots are going to generate more sales and more income is not very realistic.

Commissioner LaMere asked if this doesn't go forward now what would be the timeline for doing a park in that area.

Park Supervisor Riverblood stated there isn't a lot of momentum of satisfying the initial park improvements for these residents without atleast a sale of a lot. He stated the proceeds may not be available right away but it may add momentum for park improvements.

Commissioner Bennett's concern is if we don't move forward now with this recommendation that we lose the park altogether and asked what the HRA's perspective is.

Development Manager Lazan stated it has been the HRA's goal to maintain as many community components as possible and stated it is fully developable piece of property and that's where this is at. To date he has looked at marketing kind of a different product type as much as possible.

Commissioner Barr is concerned we already have parks that we are struggling to maintain and that we continue to still have budget cuts.

Commissioner Barr stated she is not comfortable going forward with this right now if there were 80% of the lots already sold then she would feel comfortable with it.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner LaMere to recommend to City Council and the HRA to create, develop and sell more residential lots that minimize the impact to the area from a total number of home sales. Give us the ability to look back and take into account some of the additional recommendations from the public of what that park ultimately looks like, and get to those park improvements and ultimately we end up with a park and a dedicated park there and limit the amount of potential growth.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Vice Chair Olsen, Commissioners Bennett, Fyten, and LaMere. Voting No: Commissioner Barr. Absent: Chairperson Shryock.

## **COMMISSION/STAFF INPUT**

Parks Supervisor Riverblood reviewed that City Council at City Council Work Session last Tuesday authorized staff to move forward with placing a Resolution on their agenda for March 22<sup>nd</sup> for applying for MN DNR Trail Grants. These grants are very competitive and if awarded he reviewed the project schedule for the two trails listed in the City's CIP for 2012-2013 and also what has been presented to the Commission previously.

The other item Park Supervisor Riverblood discussed was the Environmental Expo. He explained he spoke with Chairperson Shryock earlier that day and she thought what might work is to place this on the Commissions agenda for April. She also discussed scheduling a work session before or after that meeting to talk about shift coverage and what things were needed at the Expo. Separate from the Expo, Chairperson Shryock would like to have conversation

amongst the Commissioners about what individual special project ideas they would like to collaborate on.

Final input item, Park Supervisor Riverblood reviewed the summary of the ice skating season which ended two weeks earlier due to weather conditions. The total number of users at both Ramsey Elementary and Central Park were 6,040.

Vice Chair Olsen announced this is the last meeting for Commissioner LaMere after serving 16 years on the Park and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner LaMere wanted to express how extremely lucky we are to have Parks Supervisor Riverblood heading up our program. Over the years he has seen tremendous vision and foresight and commends Riverblood for being a step ahead of other cities. Commissioner LaMere stated he gets to see a lot of different parks in other cities and we are very fortunate to have Riverblood battle for us.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Fyten, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Motion carried.

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mark Riverblood  
Parks Supervisor

Drafted by Mary Jo Warner  
City of Ramsey Public Works Secretary

**Date: 04/14/2011**

**By:** Mark Riverblood  
Engineering/Public Works

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**Information**

**Title:**

Review Collaborative between Ramsey and County on 'Go-Anoka County.'

**Background:**

The purpose of this case is to review one aspect of the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP); which is the *Go Anoka County* collaborative that Ramsey and most other municipalities and townships participated in.

Anoka County SHIP is a part of Minnesota's SHIP, an integral part of a 2008 legislative health reform law, which strives to help residents lead longer, healthier lives by preventing the chronic disease risk factors of poor nutrition and physical inactivity. SHIP 'interventions' seek to create sustainable, systemic changes in schools, work-sites, communities, and health care organizations that make it easier for Anoka County residents to incorporate healthy behaviors into their daily lives.

Funds are used to implement policies and practices that create active communities by increasing opportunities for non-motorized transportation (walking and biking) and access to community recreation facilities. A heavy SHIP emphasis is placed on education and promotion because those serve as the conduit to community knowledge about City amenities, and the intention that healthy activities then become a habit of active living.

**Observations:**

The intended goal for *Go Anoka County* is to be an "on-line resource filled with information that identifies opportunities to engage in physical activity; such as biking or walking for transportation, exercising for pleasure, playing in the park, and finding public recreation opportunities and facilities."

With the overarching goal to:

- Increase awareness of public parks and recreational facilities.
- Promote access and make it convenient for people to find places to be physically active.
- Encourage walking and biking.

The address for this on-line resource is:

<http://www.goanokacounty.org/>

Staff will highlight the features and functions of the site at the meeting, and Commissioners are also encouraged to investigate it in advance of the meeting.

**Funding Source:**

Funding for this project was provided by a SHIP grant from Anoka County to the City of Ramsey in the fall of 2010.

**Council Action:**

Informational only - no action required.

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**Form Review**

<b>Inbox</b>	<b>Reviewed By</b>	<b>Date</b>
Mary Jo Warner	MaryJo Warner	04/07/2011 10:40 AM
Brian Olson	Brian Olson	04/07/2011 01:46 PM
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	04/07/2011 03:25 PM
Form Started By: Mark Riverblood		Started On: 04/07/2011 10:02 AM
Final Approval Date: 04/07/2011		

**Date: 04/14/2011**

**By:** Mark Riverblood  
Engineering/Public Works

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**Information**

**Title:**

Discuss Outdoor Meeting Schedule.

**Background:**

Background:

For many years, the Park and Recreation Commission have held regular meetings outdoors in the months of May through September (weather permitting). This provided the Commission an opportunity to inspect and comment on parks as a group, and it afforded residents' access to the Commission on a neighborhood level. On the occasions of inclement weather, the Commission would hold the regular meetings at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. The purpose of this case is to confirm the Commission's desire for outdoor meetings in 2011 and, if so, what the locations will be.

**Observations:**

The following is a proposed schedule with an opportunity noted in brackets as a rationale – if the Commission agrees to continue meeting in parks for the summer.

May: SweetBay Boardwalk?

June: Central Park or The Draw? (Inspect new parking lot at Rhinestone, review park  
signage discuss Parks CIP)

July:

August:

September: Boat landing and fishing pier at Mississippi West?

After the Commission decides where the meetings will be held their locations will be published in the Ramsey Resident newsletter and on the web.

**Funding Source:**

None required

**Council Action:**

Determine whether outdoor meetings are desired for 2011 – and if so the locations.

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### Form Review

<b>Inbox</b>	<b>Reviewed By</b>	<b>Date</b>
Mary Jo Warner	MaryJo Warner	04/07/2011 01:21 PM
Brian Olson	Brian Olson	04/07/2011 01:46 PM
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	04/07/2011 03:30 PM
Form Started By: Mark Riverblood		Started On: 04/07/2011 12:59 PM
Final Approval Date: 04/07/2011		

**Date: 04/14/2011**

**By:** Mark Riverblood  
Engineering/Public Works

**Information**

**Title:**

Define Environmental Expo Planning and Participation

**Background:**

For many years, the Commission has been participating in the Environmental Expo by staffing a booth providing general park information to the public. The purpose of this case is to identify which Commissioners may be available for the April 30th, event. This is the 34th year the City is holding the tree sale/expo – which is quite unique for a community. This will also be the fourth year that the Expo and Tree Sale will be held at the new Municipal Center – and the third year that the event will be held in concert with the Ramsey Business Expo.

The Park and Recreation Commission’s table will be positioned next to the Environmental Policy Board – which also provides an opportunity to network on natural resource issues in Ramsey. In keeping with past years, staff will have various materials and resources relating to parks for the Commission’s table that are of public interest, including a laptop with projector if time allows.

The following are suggested times that may be considered to ensure coverage for the Commission’s staffing:

8:30 A.M to 10:15 A.M. \_\_\_\_\_

9:45 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. \_\_\_\_\_

**Funding Source:**

There is no funding required.

**Council Action:**

Based on discussion.

**Attachments**

interim expo flyer

**Form Review**

Inbox	Reviewed By	Date
Mary Jo Warner	MaryJo Warner	04/07/2011 01:46 PM
Chris Anderson	Chris Anderson	04/07/2011 04:55 PM
Brian Olson	Brian Olson	04/08/2011 10:24 AM
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	04/08/2011 11:30 AM
Form Started By: Mark Riverblood		Started On: 04/07/2011 01:17 PM
Final Approval Date: 04/08/2011		



## **Environmental Expo & Tree Sale**



The annual Environmental Expo & Tree Sale is back! This is a great opportunity to learn more about our environment and maybe discover a few new green options!

The Expo is FREE and will have educational booths, presentations and of course trees and shrubs for sale.

**City of Ramsey  
Municipal Center  
7550 Sunwood Dr NW**

**Expo in the Municipal Center  
Tree Sale the parking ramp**

**Saturday, April 30, 2011  
9:00am to 2:00pm**

### **Highlights**

- Polar explorer Lonnie Dupre will be the keynote speaker and his talk will begin at 11am!
- Live Raptors & Reptiles All Day
- Tree Sale (in parking ramp).
- Master Gardeners and Tree Care Advisors available to answer questions.
- Coloring contest artwork by Ramsey Elementary School students.
- Door Prizes!

For more information visit [www.cityoframsey.com](http://www.cityoframsey.com) or call 763-433-9905 with questions.



# 2011 ENVIRONMENTAL EXPO & TREE SALE

Please join us for the 2011 Environmental Expo & Tree Sale

Saturday, April 30th, 9am to 2pm, Ramsey Municipal Center 7550 Sunwood Drive NW



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER WILL BE  
POLAR EXPLORER  
LONNIE DUPRE!  
11:00AM COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

This year, Lonnie Dupre became one of only sixteen (16) people to ever attempt a solo climb of Mt. McKinley during the month of January.

Mr. Dupre will recant some of his various arctic expeditions, talk about setting and achieving goals, and about what we can do to combat global warming. This should be a fantastic pictorial presentation

## CONFIRMED EXHIBITORS TO DATE:

- ACE Solid Waste—Acceptable Recycling Materials
- Anderson Irrigation—Water Conservation through Soil Moisture Technology
- Audubon Center of the Northwoods—Wildlife: Birds of Prey, Reptiles
- Connexus Energy
- Environmental Policy Board
- Hostas and More—Hosta Photos and Shade Gardens Info
- LRRWMO
- Master Gardeners—Ask a Master Gardener
- Tree Care Advisors—Oak Wilt and Emerald Ash Borer
- Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD)—Mosquito and Tick Info
- MN Geological Society—Rocks and Fossils
- MN Herpetological Society—Reptiles and Amphibians
- Oliver Kelley Farm
- Park & Recreation Commission—Parks and Trails Info
- Simply Neutral—Non-Toxic Line of Green Cleaners
- Norwex—Chemical Free Cleaning and Personal Care
- SarTec—Mcgyan Biodiesel
- GRE Resource Recovery Facility
- Ramsey Garden Club
- Ramsey Community Garden
- Amazon Environmental Inc.—Recycled Paint Options and Samples

## TREE SALE (IN PARKING RAMP)

Green Valley Greenhouse, Hostas and More and Maple Leaf Landscaping will be on site with lots of shade trees, ornamental trees, evergreens and shrubs at great prices!



**Date: 04/14/2011**

**By:** Mark Riverblood  
Engineering/Public Works

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**Information**

**Title:**

- Report from HRA meeting – sale of lots relating to North Commons
- Future case: Review/2011 Update, Park and Trail Plan Map
- Anticipated Earth Day tree planting at Rhinestone commons with PACT on April 21st at 12:30 PM

**Background:**

**Funding Source:**

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**Council Action:**

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**Form Review**

<b>Inbox</b>	<b>Reviewed By</b>	<b>Date</b>
Mary Jo Warner	MaryJo Warner	04/07/2011 01:42 PM
Brian Olson	Brian Olson	04/07/2011 01:53 PM
Kurt Ulrich	Kurt Ulrich	04/07/2011 03:34 PM
Form Started By: Mark Riverblood		Started On: 04/07/2011 01:33 PM
Final Approval Date: 04/07/2011		