

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

The Ramsey Park and Recreation Commission conducted a regular meeting on April 12, 2012 at the Ramsey Municipal Center, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Commission Members Present:      Chairperson Melody Shryock  
   Vice Chair Angela Olsen  
   Commissioner Bridgett Barr  
   Commissioner Shane Bennett  
   Commissioner Andrew Fyten  
   Commissioner David Minke

Commission Members Absent:      Commissioner Richard Chubb (excused)

Also Present:                              Parks Supervisor Mark Riverblood

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Shryock called the Park and Recreation Commission meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

None

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Vice Chair Olsen, seconded by Commissioner Fyten to add under Staff Input, Earthwork and Topsoil Importation for North Commons and approve the Agenda as amended.

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

**APPROVE MINUTES**

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

- 1) Park and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes dated March 8, 2012.

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

## **COMMISSION BUSINESS**

### **Case #5.1: Presentation from 'Bark for Life' – a April 2012 Fund Raiser in The Draw**

Kimberly Gust, organizer of the Bark for Life fundraiser was present to give a review of where they were at with the fundraiser event. Ms. Gust stated they have seven teams signed up and 36 dogs registered. They have already raised \$2,215.00 so far. Some of their sponsors are Caribou, Pet Smart, Dog Spot and Bob FM. They will have a photographer on site to do family photos. The Minnesota School of Business Vet Tech students will also be on sight. They have teamed up with the Anoka County Sheriff's office to provide a canine show. There will be a silent auction along with a food vendor at the event.

Ms. Gust provided some logistics of Walter Sanitation providing pink garbage cans, and they will have a vendor both set up providing information on their pink cart programs. They have partnered with Biff's to provide outdoor portables. They have also teamed up the Elk River VFW and the Legion that will do a cover guard. The Commission was provided a draft program.

Chairperson Shryock stated they have a great start for their first event, and asked if people can walk that don't have dogs.

Ms. Gust responded they will have dogs available for adoption and walking.

### **Case #5.2: Review Draft Park Zoning District Language**

Senior Planner Tim Gladhill reviewed the staff report and stated this is a result of their 2030 comprehensive plan. This is the cities general land use plan that looks 20 years into the future and the decision of the comp plan was to separate parks from other public and quasi-public uses.

The second piece in there Mr. Gladhill explained talks about signs and how we want to make a distinction between our normal sign ordinance which would be much more restrictive but allow some common signs you would see in parks.

Mr. Gladhill stated in the case there is a list of permitted accessory uses which is consistent with our park system as we see them today and the purpose is to give the Park Commission a chance to comment on this before it goes to the City Council for more discussion.

Chairperson Shryock feels this is a very good idea, clarifying this for people will help prevent some of the confusion and make our planning here in the City as we have discussions with residents in the future.

Commissioner Minke asked the definition of a park for the zoning ordinance, is that just going to be just municipal parks or county parks. Would it be any land that is not in public ownership.

Senior Planner Gladhill responded it would include public parks and private parks and would also include some of the county parks too.

Commissioner Shryock stated she feels the language is fine at this point.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett, seconded by Commissioner Barr to recommend City Council approve the draft Park Zoning District.

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

**Case #5.3: Consider Park and Recreation Commission Summer Meeting Schedule**

Parks Supervisor Riverblood stated that for many years the Park and Recreation Commission have held its regular meeting 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 afforded residents access to the Commission on a neighborhood level. The following schedule was discussed and agreed upon:

May – River’s Bend Park, 14201 Waco Street, Access at 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW and Waco Street NW

June, Central Park – 7925 161st Avenue NW – at 161st Avenue and Armstrong Blvd.  
(tentatively Joint with City Council)

July – Peltzer Park, 7001 149<sup>th</sup> Lane NW, East of Kamacite Street NW, East of Ramsey Market

August – North Commons, Zeolite Street NW and 147<sup>th</sup> Lane NW

September – The Draw, Park Patron Picnic, 7401 E Ramsey Parkway, Sunwood Drive NW to Rhinestone Street NW

**Case #5.4: Ramsey’s Environmental Expo**

Park Supervisor Riverblood stated he put this on the agenda as an announcement to the Public.

Chairperson Shryock commented that *GoAnokaCounty* is a good resource for the public and asked if we could have a computer and screen available for that and to have parks and trail maps available as we usually do.

Chairperson Shryock also commented about a couple new resources we have available such as The Tributary and asked if we have any drawings and maps of the North Commons area that we could show people.

Chairperson Shryock also stated the CIP booklet is always a good reference to have on hand.

Parks Supervisor Riverblood stated he is going to organize some of those things as a PowerPoint if the Commission is agreeable to that.

Commissioner Bennett asked that the bikes, canoes and kayaks information be available.

Commissioner Barr suggested having a kayak available to draw attention.

Parks Supervisor Riverblood stated he would have to check on the size of the space available to do that.

### **Commission Staff/Input**

Parks Supervisor Riverblood stated the ceremony scheduled for the boat landing is Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012. He informed the Commission that the HRA has funded the test plots at North Commons. He also informed the Commission that the consensus of the Council is to do nothing at this time for the sale of Peltzer Park. Mr. Riverblood reviewed the elements of programming and events scheduled for The Draw and discussed he is working on wayfinding signage for The COR area which relates to The Draw's summer events. He noted The Tributary work is being done in house and updated the Commission on the work being done out there. Mr. Riverblood announced the canoes and kayaks are out at Sunfish Lake Park and bicycles are available at City Hall during the day hours. Mr. Riverblood wanted to make a public announcement that vandalism is costing us thousands of dollars, and if the public sees something, say something. Volunteer activity is very active in May. He also summarized the spring activity of hiring seasonal workers, improving ag-lime conditions, ballfield layout and mowing.

### **Earthwork and Topsoil Import for North Commons**

The purpose of this discussion is to recommend to City Council that \$21,695 in Park Trust Fund monies be available to partner with the HRA project to get topsoil into North Commons.

Chairperson Shryock stated we have had a lot of interest in developing North Commons, we got a lot of time invested in this on both our part and City Council part. She stated there is a lot of interest in starting a number of things on a park perspective and it would be worthwhile to move forward.

Commissioner Barr asked if this is above and beyond the dollar amount we have already allocated.

Parks Supervisor Riverblood stated he doesn't recall a specific dollar amount and it was discussed moving forward with platting and developing the park in concert with the CIP that did have dollars allocated for.

Motion by Commissioner Barr, seconded by Vice Chair Olsen to recommend to City Council that \$21,695 in Park Trust Funds for the earthwork and importation and topsoil for North Commons.

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Fyten, seconded by Commissioner Bennett to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mark Riverblood  
Parks Supervisor

*Drafted by Mary Jo Warner*  
City of Ramsey Public Works Secretary