

MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

March 2, 2005

Headquarters Building
2117 West River Road
Minneapolis, Minnesota
6:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

THE TIME BEING 6:00 P.M., VICE PRESIDENT ERWIN CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER AND ASKED SECRETARY SIGGELKOW TO CALL THE ROLL.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioners Rochelle Berry Graves, Walt Dziedzic, John Erwin, Bob Fine, Marie Hauser, Carol Kummer, Annie Young and President Jon Olson - 8.
ABSENT: Commissioners Vivian Mason – 1.

OPEN TIME

Judy Blaseg, 4236 Linden Hills Boulevard, spoke in support of the proposed DeLaSalle athletic field complex project.

THE TIME BEING 6:03 P.M., PRESIDENT OLSON RECESSED THE REGULAR MEETING IN ORDER TO CONVENE THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE TIME BEING 6:20 P.M., PRESIDENT OLSON RECONVENED THE REGULAR MEETING.

PRESENTATION

RETIREE RECOGNITION

President Olson introduced recent retirees Bob Meisch, Forestry Foreman, and Tom Olin, Mobile Equipment Operator, 30-year employees of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Mr. Meisch addressed the Board. General Manager Schmidt presented Mr. Meisch with a Certificate of Appreciation for 30 years of dedicated service to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, along with the Father of Waters statue.

Mr. Olin addressed the Board. General Manager Schmidt presented Mr. Olin with a Certificate of Appreciation for 30 years of dedicated service to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. It was noted that President Olson presented the Father of Waters statue to Mr. Olin at an earlier date.

CITIZEN COMMENDATION

Park Police Chief Brad Johnson presented John and Linda McCauley with a resolution acknowledging and recognizing their heroic efforts, which resulted in saving the life of a woman's who fell through the ice on the Mississippi River approximately 30 yards from shore.

On behalf on the Park Police, Brad Johnson also presented John and Linda McCauley with Award of Merit plaques in appreciation for their life-saving efforts.

John McCauley addressed the Board stating they were thankful to be in the right place at the right time.

Photos were taken of the Board with Bob Meisch and Tom Olin and with John and Linda McCauley.

THE TIME BEING 6:32 P.M., PRESIDENT OLSON RECESSED THE REGULAR MEETING IN ORDER TO RECONVENE THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

THE TIME BEING 7:22 P.M., PRESIDENT OLSON RECONVENED THE REGULAR MEETING.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Hauser moved, seconded by Commissioner Dziedzic -

THAT THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, BE APPROVED.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, the motion carried.

ADOPTED

MINUTES

Commissioner Dziedzic moved, seconded by Commissioner Hauser -

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3, 2005 ANNUAL MEETING AND JANUARY 5, 2005 REGULAR MEETING BE APPROVED.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, the motion carried.

ADOPTED

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Park Police Chief Brad Johnson updated the Board on the School Liaison program that provides school resource officer assistance to Minneapolis schools. He informed the Board that they were in the second year of a five-year contract and that 17 officers assigned to the high schools, middle schools and two K-8 schools. Chief Johnson responded to questions from Commissioners.

Superintendent Gurban reported on the citywide wrestling tournament he recently attended at the Central Gym.

Superintendent Gurban reported that he has received the unofficial word that in 2010, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will be the site of the National Recreation and Park Association Conference.

General Manager Siggelkow reported that the Minnesota Chapters of the First Tee Golf Program, Minneapolis, Three Rivers and St. Paul, would be holding a golf tournament in May to raise funds for the First Tee Program. He stated that the First Tee Program would not be involved in the fall fund raising tournament.

Commissioner Berry Graves stated that this would allow the expansion of the fall golf tournament to include the arts and recreation.

General Manager Schmidt reported on athletic field fees inviting the Board to attend a dry run tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. on increasing fees at athletic fields for adult usage and creating fees for youth team that use Park Board athletic fields. He stated that the budget the Board adopted required fees to balance the budget.

CONSENT BUSINESS

Commissioner Young moved, seconded by Commissioner Fine –

- 2.1 THE BOARD APPROVE FINAL PAYMENT TO BITUMINOUS ROADWAYS INC., CONTRACT NO. 18415, FOR TENNIS COURT REPLACEMENT AT MATTHEWS AND MARTIN LUTHER KING PARKS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$332.94.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, the motion carried.

ADOPTED

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Commissioners M. Hauser, Chair, W. Dziejcz,
V. Mason, A. Young, and R. Berry Graves

Commissioner Hauser moved, seconded by Commissioner Berry Graves -

- 7.1 THAT THE BOARD APPROVE MEMBERSHIP IN THE MIDTOWN COMMUNITY WORKS PARTNERSHIP FOR THE YEAR 2005 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000.00.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, the motion carried.

ADOPTED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Young moved, seconded by Commissioner Berry Graves -

- 8.1 THAT THE BOARD ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2005-101, CAPTIONED AS FOLLOWS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-101

AUTHORIZING THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TO ACT AS THE FISCAL AGENT TO THE
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ON BEHALF OF
THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD'S
SCENIC BYWAY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

On call of the roll, the vote was Yeas - 8; Nays - None, Absent - 1; as follows:

- YEAS - Commissioners Berry Graves, Dziejdzic, Erwin, Fine, Hauser, Kummer, Young and President Olson - 8.
- NAYS - None.
- ABSENT - Commissioner Mason - 1.

ADOPTED

NEW BUSINESS

There was no "New Business" to be heard.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 1.1 Letter dated February 21, 2005, addressed to the Board of Commissioners Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board from Kevin Thompson, President, Bryn Mawr Neighborhood

- Association (BMNA), requesting that the MPRB clarify its position with respect to its support and approval of the Bassett Creek Valley Master Plan.
- 1.2 Email dated February 22, 2005, submitted by Commissioner Young from David Byron, 33 South Sixth Street, asking for support for DeLaSalle's proposal for the development of additional athletic facilities on Nicollet Island.
 - 1.3 Email dated February 22, 2005, addressed to Commissioners from Sarah Johnson, asking for support of DeLaSalle High School's plan to expand their athletic facilities.
 - 1.4 Letters received February 22, 2005 urging the Board to support the proposal by DeLaSalle High School to build an athletic facility were received from John Vchulek, 5115 – 35th Avenue South, Minneapolis; Emily Traynor, 1467 Hague Avenue, St. Paul; Kai and Rod Byrnes, 530 Fremont, Mendota Heights; Chuck Traynor, 1467 Hague Avenue, St. Paul; and Tom O'brien, 11505 – 39th Avenue North, Plymouth.
 - 1.5 Commissioner Dziejcz reported that he attended caucuses last evening and that there was a lot of misinformation about the Park Board. He responded to the misconceptions that came about at the caucuses.
 - 1.6 Commissioner Hauser reported that she received a telephone call regarding a concern that park land had been sold along the river.
 - 1.7 Commissioner Hauser letters reported on a large number of letters she received asking for her consideration on the DeLaSalle proposal. She reported she also has received telephone calls and email on the issue.
 - 1.8 Commissioner Fine reported he received a couple of letters on the Superintendent House. He reported he also received a large number of letters regarding the DeLaSalle proposal.
 - 1.9 Commissioner Young reported that she has received many letters regarding the DeLaSalle proposal and stated that she was offended by the amount of paper and postage.
 - 1.10 Commissioner Young reported on the Bassett's Creek Master Plan Open House and asked that the Board acknowledge the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association and their request that the Board attend.
 - 1.11 Commissioner Young reported that she has received email about issues with the web site and is working with staff.
 - 1.12 Commissioner Kummer reported that she also attended the caucus last evening and encountered misinformation on two issues, Earth Day and the Neiman Complex. She asked that staff report on both of those issues. General Manager Schmidt responded to concerns about the Earth Day activities.
 - 1.13 Commissioner Berry Graves reported she received a call from a constituent regarding closing Bethune Park and referred them to President Olson.

- 1.14 Commissioner Berry Graves submitted a letter she received from Greg Lecker, Bryn Mawr Community Landscapes, with regard to the American Community Gardening Association 2005 Annual Conference and requesting access to the Superintendents' Residence for part of a tour being planned.
- 1.15 Commissioner Berry Graves stated she also received a lot of the DeLaSalle letters and said that more than half of the letters are from people who do not live in the City of Minneapolis.
- 1.16 Commissioner Erwin stated that he attended a precinct caucus and reported that there was standing room only. He said that a resolution was passed that dealt with the privatization of the Park Board and that there were a number of specifics in the resolution that were incorrect.
- 1.17 President Olson reported he also received the letter from Mr. Lecker and said he felt that an agreement could be worked out with Mr. Lecker.
- 1.18 President Olson reported that he has also received a many letters supporting the DeLaSalle proposal and thanked people for taking time to write regardless of what side of the issue they were on.
- 1.19 President Olson reported that the turnout was good at the northside precinct caucuses.

ADJOURNMENT

The time being 7:59 p.m., Commissioner Hauser moved, seconded by Commissioner Berry Graves
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THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.

Upon call for the question, on a voice vote, the motion carried.

ADOPTED

JON OLSON
President

DON SIGGELKOW
Secretary

JO/DS/dh