Regular Meeting

May 19, 2010
5:00 p.m. – 2117 West River Rd.

President Erwin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Brad Bourn, Bob Fine, Carol Kummer, Jon Olson, Anita Tabb, Scott Vreeland, Liz Wielinski, Annie Young, and President John Erwin - 9.
Absent: None - 0.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Fine -
That the agenda, as amended, be approved (remove 8.4, add item 8.5 & 8.6).

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Wielinski -
That the minutes of the May 5, 2010, Regular Meeting be approved.

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

There were no “Reports of Officers” to be heard.

CONSENT BUSINESS

Commissioner Vreeland moved items 2.1 & 2.2, seconded by Commissioner Wielinski -

2.1 That the Board authorize acceptance of the low bids of O.P. 7275 of S & N Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of $100,000, Precision Landscaping and Tree, Inc. in the amount of $30,000, and Briwick Company in the amount of $20,000 for a total estimated annual expenditure of $150,000 annually for furnishing rental of skid steer loaders with operators and attachments all in accordance with specifications (Budgeted funds).
2.2 That the Board retain Barr Engineering for professional services to develop a feasibility report for the east falls project at Father Hennepin Park for a fee not to exceed $80,000 (Funding: Mississippi Watershed Management Organization grant).

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

OPERATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Commissioner Jon Olson, Chair; Commissioners Brad Bourn, Carol Kummer, Scott Vreeland and Annie Young

Commissioner Olson moved, seconded by Commissioner Tabb -

5.1 That the Board adopt the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary Management Plan.

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Fine -

8.2 That the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board approve S.F. 3275/H.F. 3702 – Chapter 361, Article 3, section 7: and S.F. 2510/H.F. 2781 – Chapter 347, Article 1, section 34:

Commissioner Vreeland read for the record the germane parts of senate file 3275 and 2510 -

S.F. 3275 - The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board may acquire all or part of the entire property known as the Scherer Brothers Lumber Yard for a metropolitan area regional park and may allocate any future appropriations to the board from the parks and trails fund to acquire the property.

S.F. 2510 - $300,000 is for a grant to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for cleanup of contaminated soils related to construction of the East Phillips Cultural and Community Center. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until expended.

Vice President Young moved to amend item 8.2, seconded by Commissioner Wielinski -

That the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board approve S.F. 3275/H.F. 3702 – Chapter 361, Article 3, section 7, referencing acquisition of the property known as Scherer Brothers Lumber Yard and allocation of park and trails funding to acquire the property; and S.F. 2510/H.F. 2781 – Chapter 347, Article 1, section 34 referencing a grant for cleanup of contaminated soils at East Phillips Cultural and Community Center.

President Erwin called the question to the amendment -
Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

President Erwin called the question to item 8.2 as amended -

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Tabb -

8.5 That the Board accept the recommendation of the City of Minneapolis’ information systems policy steering group regarding the placement of 117 free wireless hotspots in the City of Minneapolis and signage for those hotspots located on Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board property.

Larry Brandts, Manager Information Technology Services, introduced Lynn Willenbring, City of Minneapolis Chief Information Officer, to receive and pass along any recommendations by the Board for the location of 117 free wireless access hotspots to the City of Minneapolis Information Systems Policy Steering Group. Mr. Brandts and Ms. Willenbring then responded to questions and comments by the Board.

Commissioner Olson stated for the record that he objected to the recommendation by Vice President Young to move a hotspot from 25th St. to a bus stop at 26th and Cedar Ave.

President Erwin called the question -

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

Commissioner Kummer moved Seconded by Commissioner Vreeland -

8.6 That the Board approve amending the Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) as follows: the Upper Trail in the Phase II project will not be constructed and the MPRB will reimburse the MCWD $162,000 for materials purchased to date for the project; MCWD will complete Phase II construction and bluff vegetation in the Phase II area; MCWD will use rip rap to repair the scouer areas in the Phase II area of the Creek; the MPRB will assume responsibility for the construction of the Phase III improvements with design being reviewed and agreed to by both parties.

Commissioner Kummer read item 8.6 in its entirety for the record and commented on the action.

President Erwin called the question -

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.

OPEN TIME - 5:30 TIME CERTAIN

Jonathan Townsend 35xx Garfield Ave S. expressed concern over development at south Lake Calhoun, the proposed location of a public art drinking fountain and its impact on windsurfing.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Fine -

8.3 That the Board direct the President and Secretary to amend the Purchase Agreement with Scherer Brothers to reduce the amount of land purchased from $8,650,000 for 14 acres to $7.7 million for Parcel A only (496,253 square feet) as described in the Board’s Appraisal and that the other terms of the Purchase Agreement remain the same adjusted for the price (with the price reduction coming from the seller’s financing). Further, that if Scherer Brothers rejects the changes, the Park Board directs the law firm of Best & Flanagan to cancel the Purchase Agreement pursuant to section 9.7 of the Purchase Agreement, sections 9.3, 9.4, and 9.5, prior to May 26, 2010 and obtain return of all escrowed funds.

President Erwin called upon Judd Rietkerk, Director of Planning, to report on item 8.3. Mr. Rietkerk, and Council Rice, then responded to questions and comments by the Board. Commissioner Olson Recognized Ward 3 Council Member, Diane Hofstede, as being in the audience and asked President Erwin that she be allowed to comment. Council Member Hofstede addressed the Board and submitted a letter of support.

President Erwin thanked Commissioner Fine, Council Rice, Mr. Rietkerk, Mr. Siggelkow, for their work on the project along with Senator Pogemiller and Representative Kahn for their clarifying legislation.

President Erwin called the question -

Action Taken: Motion Passed on a Roll Call Vote (AYES: President Erwin, Vice President Young, Commissioners Bourn, Fine, Kummer, Olson, Tabb, Vreeland, and Wielinski - 9; NAYS: None - 0; ABSENT: None - 0.).

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Olson moved, seconded by Commissioner Vreeland -

9.1 That the Board grant an access permit to the Central Corridor Project Office for East River Road Parkway for the purposes of street realignment and construction related to the Central Corridor LRT project starting Thursday, May 20, 2010.

Commissioner Fine moved to amend, seconded by Commissioner Kummer -

To add: that the work shall not permanently affect bike, walking trails and parkway lighting.

President Erwin called upon Dan Soler, Engineer at the Central Corridor Project Office, to outline the project.
Vice President Young stated for the record that if any additional land is needed or taken for this project that it come from the University side, not the Park Board.

Mr. Soler and Heidi Hamilton, Deputy Director Minneapolis Public Works, responded to questions and comments by the Board.

President Erwin called the question to the amendment -

**Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.**

President Erwin called the question to item 9.1 as amended -

**Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.**

Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Tabb -

9.2 That the Board approve the Agreement to Transfer Jurisdiction of East River Road and authorizes staff to execute the Consent to Use of Park Property for Public Right of Way to facilitate the traffic diversion created by the closing of Washington Avenue by the Central Corridor project.

President Erwin called upon Judd Rietkerk, Director of Planning, to report on item 9.2.

Commissioner Fine moved to amend, seconded by commissioner Kummer -

9.2 That the Board approve the Agreement to Transfer Jurisdiction for control and management of East River Road and authorize staff to execute the negotiate a Consent to Use of Park Property for Public Right of Way to facilitate the traffic diversion created by the closing of Washington Avenue by the Central Corridor project and return to the Board for approval.

Following discussion, President Erwin called the question to the amendment -

**Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.**

President Erwin called the question to item 9.2 as amended -

**Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Kummer –

8.1 That the Board approve the Superintendent recruitment brochure.

President Erwin called upon Karen Robinson, Director of Administrative Services, to report on item 8.1. Ms. Robinson then responded to questions and comments by the Board.
PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

1.1 Letter dated April 14, 2010, from John Wittman, to Jon Gurban, Superintendent, regarding Spoonbridge and Cherry sculpture.  
PLACED ON FILE

1.2 Letter dated April 19, 2010, from Michael Christenson, Director, CPED and Steven Kotke Director/City Engineer Public Works Department, to Jon Gurban, Superintendent regarding completion of the Grand Rounds “Missing Link”.  
PLACED ON FILE

1.3 Letter dated April 22, 2010, from Mary Jane Melendez, Associate Director General Mills Foundation, to Jon Gurban, Superintendent regarding a grant for Enhanced/Extended programming at Farview Park.  
PLACED ON FILE

1.4 Letter dated May 5, 2010, from Linda R. Loomis, Mayor City of Golden Valley, to MPRB Commissioners regarding tobacco use in Minneapolis parks.  
PLACED ON FILE

1.5 Thank you email dated May 9, 2010, from Lois Kelly, to Gary Myhre, District Foreman Park Forestry regarding tree planting on Stinson Parkway.  
PLACED ON FILE

Commissioners reported on communications received and activities that have taken place since the May 5, 2010, Regular Meeting.
Copies of communications submitted by Commissioners are made part of the Board’s permanent record.

ADJOURNMENT

The time being 7:34 p.m. Commissioner Vreeland moved, seconded by Commissioner Tabb -
That the Meeting be adjourned.

Action Taken: Approved on a voice vote. Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.