

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board - T. S. Roberts Bird Sanctuary Improvements Project

Public Meeting #1
February 18, 2016
6:30pm to 8:00pm

Design Team:
Dr. David Zumeta, Ornithology and Forest Habitat Expert
Jason Aune, Landscape Architect, AFLA
Tyler Pederson, Project Manager, MPRB
Michael Schroeder, Assistant Superintendent of Planning, MPRB

MEETING NOTES

1. The Fence
 - Great concern for protecting habitat
 - Check ownership of northern fence line. *Answer: The MPRB is looking into ownership and maintenance records.*
 - Allowing police bicycles easier access to the sanctuary may make it harder to keep other cyclists out.
 - Ensure a welcoming entryway into the sanctuary.
 - The fence is not only for deer, but a “cue of care” for people to know they are in a sanctuary.
 - Please spend all the project funds on the fence.
 - The fence keeps trash out.
 - The fence might be an opportunity to display signage to explain the reason for the Sanctuary.
 - The fence needs to protect the Sanctuary, but not make it feel unwelcoming.
 - Predators and other animals (coyotes, feral cats, deer, etc.) may impact birds within the Sanctuary.
2. Sanctuary Boundary
 - Expand sanctuary to the east, along the cemetery, capturing the woodland area.
 - Push the fence line along the parkway up and out of the wet areas, towards the parkway.
 - Expand the sanctuary towards the corner of the parkway and Roseway Road near the maintenance facility.
3. Limits of Project
 - The project can suggest changes to bird habitat outside of the Sanctuary bounds. A Purple Martin house could be built near the Rose Gardens.
4. Water Quality
 - What is the quality of the water entering the Sanctuary from Jo Pond in Lakewood Cemetery?
Answer: The DNR and the MPCA do not have data on this lake. [Lake ID 27001700 “Cemetery Lake”](#)
5. Safety
 - Dangerous entry point at the west end by the parkway.
6. Entrances to Sanctuary
 - Make the entrances welcoming.
 - Do not increase the amount of visitors in the sanctuary. This could disrupt bird nesting.
7. Education and Advocacy
 - Increase the amount of educational signage in the sanctuary.
 - Encourage youth birding any way possible. They are the future stewards of our land.
 - Educate visitors as to how to use the sanctuary in a responsible manner.
 - Encourage volunteerism and sanctuary ambassador programs.
8. Maintenance
 - Clean up the backyard of the maintenance facility along Roseway Road.