

# Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

2-28-2013

**Members present:** Rick Anderson, Lynnea Atlas-Ingebretson, Kathy Bergen, Bob Bierscheid, Nancy Hanson, Brian Hubbard, Chuck Kartak, Dwight Morrison, Glenda Phillipe, Tom Ryan, Wayne Sames, Jan Shaw Wolf, Jenny Smith, Barry Warner, Tony Yarusso

**Agency Liaisons:** Courtland Nelson, Arne Stefferud

**Guests:** Randall Vogt, Co-chair, Wheels on Trails

**Staff:** Laurie Young, Adam DeKleyn

## 1. Welcome and overview of the agenda

Larry Peterson, Park Manager, welcomed the committee and gave an overview of Fort Snelling State Park and its importance in the Twin Cities. He also described the current project to establish reuse of the historic buildings in the upper bluff area of the park.

## 2. Finalize *Member Expectations and Statutes* document Update to Committee Charter

Edits were made to the *Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee Charter* and the *Member Expectations and Statutes* documents to clarify the issue of non-attendance by a committee member.

There was consensus to make the following changes to the *Member Expectations and Statutes* document. Strikeouts indicate deletions, red underlined text, additions.

### 1. Regular Attendance

1.1 Advisory committee members should strive for regular attendance. Attending by conference call and or virtual means is acceptable and will be available at all ~~regular~~ full committee meetings.

1.2 Members unable to attend full committee meetings must inform both staff and chair.

There was consensus to make the following changes to the *Parks and Trails legacy Advisory Committee Charter*.

2.1 Regular attendance and participation are important. If a member misses two, consecutive full committee meetings, the member needs to communicate with both staff and chair if they are able to continue.

4.3 Committee members are subject to removal by consensus of the committee creating a vacancy when they fail to attend full committee

**Next Meeting:** 4/25/2013 9:00 – 2:30  
Nordic Center at Lake Elmo Park Reserve

### Actions Required

**Action:** Develop talking points and start two way dialogs with help from convening sponsors communication departments.

**Action:** Courtland will revise the Proposed Role of the Legacy Advisory Committee Regarding Statewide Trail Issues document for the next meeting and include clear intent, desired outcomes, the role of local cities, and identify staff resources available for assistance.

**Action:** Committee members who haven't yet responded to the survey, will do so.

**Action:** Committee members will calculate mileage traveled to meetings and person investments by the next meeting.

meetings as outlined in the *Charter and Member Expectations* documents. The committee member will be notified with a recommendation for removal to the sponsoring agency. Members will be permanently removed by convening sponsors.

In addition to these changes, edits were made to 5. Minnesota Governmental Data Practices based on input from the DNR. (See attached for the edits).

There was consensus to adopt the changes.

### **3. Update on the House Legacy Committee Hearings o the funding Committee's recommendation – Lynnea Atlas-Ingrebretson, Tom Ryan**

Three hearings have occurred. Tom Ryan testified in support of the Funding Committee's recommendation. Lynnea was scheduled to testify at the first scheduled hearing but was unable to testify until the third.

Highlights and insights from attending these hearings include:

- Discussion regarding the strategy of providing funds up front for greater Minnesota Regional park and trail providers to enable planning.
- Concern by Legacy Advisory Committee members that the Legacy advisory Committee was not taken seriously.
- There is a misconception that money is going to develop a new system of regional parks and trails – that there will be a great number of parks added to Greater Minnesota. These parks already exist.
- Also, there is the misperception that the money is not going to regionally significant projects.
- The Legacy Advisory Committee needs to take a stronger role in providing education regarding the *Park and Trail Legacy Plan*, and the role of the Park and Trail Legacy Advisory Committee.
- There is a need to tell the story using talking points, pictures and case studies.
- Engaging youth groups would be a useful strategy.
- The question was raised as to whether or not more money upfront to make the planning go faster in Greater Minnesota would be beneficial.
- There is a desire for a clear model of collaboration between DNR and regional providers.
- There was consensus that the Advisory committee agrees that the \$100,000 a year is appropriate and that additional funds upfront to speed up planning would not result in a desired outcome. Care should be taken and not rush and produce a poor product.
- There is a desire for a clear model of collaboration between DNR and regional facilities.
- There is a need to advocate for implementation of the plan, underscoring it was developed with the input of Minnesotans, including youth and young adults.

**Action: Develop talking points and start two way dialogs with help from convening sponsors communication departments.**

### **4. Feedback on Metro Region Legacy Projects – Arne Stefferud**

The Legacy Advisory committee was asked to review the list of 2014 projects and respond to the following questions

1. Are the projects meeting the 25 year Parks and Trails Legacy Plan strategic directions well?
2. Is the mix of projects by strategic direction reasonably balanced from your perspective?

3. Are their projects or programs that metro regional park agencies should consider that are not on this list? If so, please submit your suggestion.

Arne distributed a handout that illustrated the Legacy FY 14-15 budget linking the *Parks and Trails Legacy Plan* to the four strategic directions. (See attachment for more detail).

#### *Summary of Budget Linked to Parks & Trails Legacy Plan Strategic Directions*

- Create opportunities - 57.5%
- Acquire land - 20.2%
- Take care of what we have - 19.3%
- Connect people to the outdoors - 2.74%
- Work better together - 0.3%

A few members commented on specific projects. Arne will forward those comments to the appropriate implementing agency.

Two additional general comments were made regarding the budget. 1. Accessibility is a big issue to address. 2. Regarding the percentages in the “create opportunities” and the “connect people to the outdoors” categories. People connect people to the outdoors, not infrastructure as much. The money used in the “connect people to the outdoors” category is small.

Courtland Nelson distributed a handout illustrating the Legacy Budget categorized by strategic direction. (See attachment for more detail).

#### *Summary of DNR Parks and Trails Budget and Strategic Directions*

- Connecting people to the outdoors - 14%
- Acquiring land and creating opportunities - 40%
- Maintaining existing holdings - 45%
- Improving cooperation with partners to implement the 25 year parks and trails legacy plan - 1%

### **5. Role of Legacy Advisory committee relative to trails**

Courtland Nelson distributed the handout, *Proposed Role of the Legacy Advisory Committee Regarding Statewide Trail Issues*.

Highlights from the discussion were:

- It seems like a tremendous amount of work. What specifically could the committee do?
- If we dedicate time and use staff as facilitators, we could do this.
- Historical information about what has been done in the past relative to these issues would be useful.
- Stating the need and intent of the plan is critical to a successful process.

***Action: Courtland will revise the Proposed Role of the Legacy Advisory Committee Regarding Statewide Trail Issues document for the next meeting and include clear intent, desired outcomes, the role of local cities, and identify staff resources available for assistance.***

## **6. Review outcome of the first survey.**

Lynnea distributed the results from the first survey regarding the committees work. It was not discussed at the meeting because additional members need to respond. There have been 10 respondents to some questions and 9 to most questions.

**Action:** *Committee members who haven't yet responded to the survey, will do so.*

**Action:** *Committee members will calculate mileage traveled to meetings and person investments by the next meeting.*

## **7. Meeting dates and locations for next year.**

April 25<sup>th</sup> – Metro hosts

June 27<sup>th</sup> – Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails hosts – possibly in Duluth at Hartley Nature Center

August 22<sup>nd</sup> – DNR hosts at Itasca State Park

October 24<sup>th</sup> – Metro hosts

## **8. Updates from subcommittees**

### *Communications*

Will work on new Twitter account

### *Youth*

Youth Day at the capital is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00.

### *Funding Committee*

Beginning work on developing recommendations as recommended in the Funding Committee report.

### *Benchmarks*

Waiting on survey results

## **9. Subcommittee meeting time**

## **10. Meeting adjourned**