



Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Commission

Minutes for May 20, 2019

Spirit Mountain Recreation Area

9500 Spirit Mountain Place

Duluth, MN 55810

APPROVED

Commissioners Present: Tim Kennedy, Tim Engrav, Rita Albrecht, Bryan Pike, Peg Furshong, Barry Wendorf, Tom Schmitz, Rick Anderson, Jannik Anderson

Commissioners Absent: Tom Ryan, Tom Stoa, Brad Bonk, Marc Mattice

Consultants Present: Renee Mattson, Executive Director, Joe Czapiewski, System Plan Coordinator, Margy Hughes, Administrative Assistant

1. Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice Chair Kennedy

2. Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes of April 24, 2019, Treasurer's Report and Agenda for May 29, 2019, with two edits.

Strike **Agenda 8.6**. Change **Agenda 8.5** to: **Funding Resolution Update and Adoption.**

Treasure's Report through April 30, 2019, Month 10 Of 12 has a remaining balance of \$82,743.44 from starting balance of \$399,000.

Motion by Furshong to approve the Consent Agenda with above changes.

Second by Pike

Motion Approved

3. Acknowledge Members of the Public in Attendance: Jake Carsten, Planner for Rock Solid Construction; Jane Gilbert-Howard, Eric Viken, Dan O'Neill and Aaron Stolp, Board Members of Spirit Mountain Recreation Authority; Jane Kaiser, Spirit Mountain Finance Manager; Marty Francisco, Spirit Mountain, HR Manager; John Hutchinson, Food and Beverage Manager Spirit Mountain; Brandy Ream, Executive Director of Spirit Mountain; Jodi Ream, Operations Manager Spirit Mountain; Gretchen Ransom, Director

of Operations and Risk Management Spirit Mountain; Jim Shoberg, City of Duluth Park and Recreation, & Liaison to the Spirit Mountain Board; Hansi Johnson, MN Land Trust; Ross Greedy, City of Winona Outdoor Recreation.

Brandy Ream presented an overview of Spirit Mountain Recreation Area facilities that provide four seasons of recreation and tourism.

4. **Executive Director's Report:** (See *attachment* ITEM 4 by *Mattson*) In addition to items found in attached report, *Mattson* reported that there is a directive from the Legislature for the DNR Commissioner to facilitate a working group of nine members to develop consensus recommendations for the future allocation of the parks and trails fund. The working group will have three representatives each from the Metropolitan Council, GMRPC and the DNR. At the June 2019 meeting, the Commission will be selecting the three members to represent the Commission. The directive is a final decision from this Committee no later than June 15, 2020. There is interest from the GMP&T to have representation for one of the three seats
5. **System Plan Coordinator's Report:** (*See attachment* ITEM 5 by *Czapiewski*) *Czapiewski* presented an overview for the Winona Bluffs Traverse Master Plan Site Review along with addressing any concerns from previous discussions that were initiated at the March 2019 GMRPTC meeting.

Motion by Pike to approve Regional Designation for District 6 Winona Bluffs Traverse
Second by Engrav
Motion Approved

6. **Items from Members and Letter to Commission** *Pike* reported to be aware that he has a new email address. There was a very good turnout at the District 2 meetings. *Wendorf* There will be a 10 year Anniversary celebration of the dedication of the Irving and John Anderson Park on September 21. Sherburne County has hired a new Director of Parks. *R. Anderson* Bids that came in for Twin Lakes Park were \$400,000 over the budget developed for the project. Lyon County has committed to fund the \$400,000 shortfall to allow completion of the original plan. *Engrav* The ATV Clubs in both St. Louis and Lake County have been very active and will be for the next two years. They were able to receive some funds from the Off Highway Vehicle account and will be connecting some big loops. *Schmitz* The District 5 workshop meeting was well attended in Mankato and is bringing in more involvement.
7. **Old Business:**
 - 7.1 **Strategic Plan Update** Directions given by *Czapiewski* for moving into the four original small Theme groups. After 20 minutes, each Theme group reported back with their suggestions and updates for possible changes as well as support for the strengths of the Strategic Plan. *Czapiewski* responded that significant progress is being made with all of the Themes.

8. New Business:

8.1 Mountain Bike Trail Design Guidelines Jake Carsten, Rock Solid, presented the current concepts of what this future guideline handbook that is in the process of being designed for Minnesota trails will contain. This will be an excellent tool to help those that do not have the expertise with trail planning. Trail planning considerations are numerous. Only a few of which would be site and land conditions and considerations, types of various bikes that will be used, contracting process that MN uses, experience of builders, costs, trail maintenance procedures and types of trails to build. This document would be widely distributed through GMRPTC website as well as our partners websites.

8.2 Executive Director Contract: There were several suggestions for some changes to the current contract, mainly on the format/construction. *Mattson* took note of these suggestions from the Commission. She will bring an updated contract back to the June meeting with the format/suggestions that were made.

8.3 Legislative Update: Refer to Agenda item 4 for this update

8.4 DPC Conflict of Interest Statement: A signed copy of this agreement must be on file from each DPC member.

Motion by Schmitz

Second by R. Anderson

Motion Approved

8.5 Funding Resolution Update and Adoption

Motion by Wendorf to adopt the Memorandum Agreement

Second by Schmitz

Motion Approved

9. Consent Agenda Approval of May expenses

May Commission expenses	\$2,789.96
<u>May Consultant and other expenses</u>	<u>29,837.78</u>
Total	\$32,627.74

Motion by R. Anderson

Second by Engrav

Motion Approved

10. Next Meeting and Agenda Items

June 26, 2019. Hole in the Mountain County Park, Lake Benton, MN