

Chairperson: Supervisor Gerry Broderick, 278-4237
Clerk: Carol Mueller, 278-4228
Research Analyst: Julie Esch, 278-4430

PARKS, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 15, 2009 - 9:00 A.M.

Milwaukee County Courthouse - Room 201-B

M I N U T E S

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

PRESENT: Supervisors Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair)

Zoo – 1

1. 09-365 From the Director of the Zoological Gardens, requesting authority to apply for and accept a Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) Stormwater Best Management Practices 2009 Partnership grant.

APPEARANCES:

Vera Westphal, Assistant Director, Zoo

Phillip Hung, Managing Architect, Transportation and Public Works

The Zoo will be replacing four roofs. Grant funding will cover 50% (\$145,000) of these costs. The project will develop a system to capture storm water run-off to be used as gray water.

The Department thanked Mr. Hung for finding the grant for this project.

MOTION BY: (Sanfelippo) Approve. (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

Resolutions - 4

2. 09-361 A resolution by Supervisor Broderick endorsing the *Regional Water Quality Management Plan Update for the Great Milwaukee Watersheds* previously adopted by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission as a guide for regional and community development.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

APPEARANCES:

Tim Detzer, Department of Transportation and Public Works
Michael Hahn, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Mr. Detzer noted that SEWRPC asked Milwaukee County to endorse their water quality plan. This plan is the framework for future water quality related plans and projects.

Mr. Hahn explained that SEWRPC focused on non- point sources of pollution.

Supervisor Rice requested being added as a cosponsor. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

MOTION BY: (Sanfelippo) Approve. (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

3. 09-348 A resolution by Supervisors Lipscomb, Sanfelippo and Johnson, authorizing and directing the Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture to apply for funding from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for repair of the Estabrook Dam.

APPEARANCES:

Supervisor Theo Lipscomb, District #1
Kevin Haley, Parks, Landscape Architect
Sue Black, Director, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Julie Esch, Research Analyst
Richard Frecska (registered to speak)

The Committee was informed that Milwaukee County could only apply for a grant to "repair" or "remove" the dam. They cannot be combined into one grant request.

Supervisor Lipscomb said this resolution is to provide direction for the Parks Department. If successful, the grant would cover 50% of the first \$400,000 and 25% of the next \$800,000. The STS report lists a scope of repairs required to stabilize the dam.

Questions arose regarding the application for the grant. Any matching funds must be specified in order for the application to proceed.

The Committee took a break from 10:10 a.m. until 10:25 to allow the author a chance to amend the resolution and specify the funding mechanism.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

A roll call was taken after the recess with all members present except Supervisor Coggs. She appeared shortly thereafter.

A discussion ensued regarding the previously approved study for the dam to produce hydroelectric power. A report from Titus should be presented to the Committee in the next Committee cycle.

A stability analysis needs to be done. Once the scope and costs are known a decision to repair or remove the dam must be made.

Ms. Esch clarified that the original STS study resolution for the dam included a clause that removal of the dam was not to be considered. This did not mean that future studies of the dam could not include consideration of its removal.

MOTION BY: (Lipscomb) Amend the resolution as follows: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is the intent of Milwaukee County to pay the cost share, per Chapter NR 335 07(2)(a) 2, Wisconsin Administrative Code, potentially up to \$800,000. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

MOTION BY: (Lipscomb) Approve as amended. **(Vote 6-1)**

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, and Lipscomb - 7

NOES: - Broderick (Chair) - 1

4. 09-369 A resolution by Supervisor Jursik, authorizing and directing the Director of Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture to construct a dog exercise area in Warnimont Park, adjacent to the Kelly Senior Center, and in accordance with the 2009 Capital Improvements Budget for Milwaukee County.

APPEARANCES:

Supervisor Patricia Jursik, District #8
James Keegan, Parks, Chief of Planning and Development
Sue Black, Director, Parks, Recreation and Culture

Supervisor Dimitrijevic requested being added as a cosponsor. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

Supervisor Jursik said that originally, a neighborhood dog park was considered for Bay View Park. A public hearing resulted in strong opposition for that proposed site.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Friends of Sheridan Park approached Supervisor Jursik and suggested Warnimont Park as an alternative site. A meeting with Kelly Senior Center staff supervisors, seniors and talks with neighbors provided support to locate the dog park near the Center.

Mr. Keegan explained the area will be fenced in and have a buffer between the current bike/walk path and the dog exercise area. Details regarding use of restroom facilities or port-a-potties will be worked out.

Ms. Black informed the Committee that the overall capital improvement budget for dog parks was to start regional then go local and include neighborhoods. This project will exhaust the 2009 capital improvement budget for dog parks.

MOTION BY: (Dimitrijevic) Approve. (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

5. 08-238 (a) A report back on and adopted resolution, creating a Green Print Workgroup that shall be responsible for implementation of the Green Print Initiative
(INFORMATIONAL, UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE.)

APPEARANCES:

Julie Esch, Research Analyst, County Board

Jack Takerian, Interim Director, Transportation and Public Works

Ms. Esch gave an overview of the report. The report had three alternatives. The first was status quo, which isn't working successfully. The second is to split the position between the Sustainability Director and the Environmental Services Director. The third is to have the Sustainability Director under the County Executive and report directly to him. This makes the position more visible with Countywide authority. Ideally, the Sustainability position would be separate.

Supervisor Rice suggested that consideration be given to having these services performed by an outside entity instead of hiring another full-time County employee to fill the Environmental Services Director.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic reminded the Committee that the Board fully funded the position of Sustainability Director but with a vacancy for the Environmental Services Director, the jobs are overlapping causing deficiencies in both areas.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

MOTION BY: (Dimitrijevic) Refer Alternative 3 of the report, to the Finance and Audit Committee, for consideration in the 2010 budget process. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

Parks - 3

6. 09-362 From the Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, requesting authorization to accept the donation of the storm water management improvements constructed at Boerner Botanical Gardens and the related donations of goods, services and Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District funding utilized in the construction.

APPEARANCES:

Kevin Haley, Landscape Architect

Shirley Dommer-Walczak, Director, Boerner Botanical Gardens

Joel Reinders, Reinders, Inc.

Ellen Hayward, Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens

Mr. Haley introduced some of the people involved in this success story. The Friend of the Boerner Botanical Gardens applied for a \$100,000 MMSD grant for storm water management improvements. In-kind services, labor and materials from Reinders Inc., Aquascape Inc. and Unilock were supplied for the project. An aesthetically pleasant storm water best management practice retaining area has been created. The project captures rainwater from the roofs, treats, stores and reuses it through a re-circulating loop. The treated storm water will proceed through a wetland garden instead of running off the ground.

This unique process will be used as an educational tool for schools and the guest of the Gardens. The goal is to retain all rainwater. The system is scalable for use in home landscaping projects.

The Committee thanked the members of this project and encouraged more partnerships throughout Milwaukee County.

MOTION BY: (Sanfelippo) Approve. **(Vote 7-0)**

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

7. 09-363 From the Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, requesting authorization for the Parks, Department of Transportation and Public Works, Department of Administrative Services, Corporation Counsel and Risk Management staff to prepare, review, approve and process all documents and

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

perform those actions required to accept implement, construct, operate and maintain the Lake Park Friends improvements.

APPEARANCES:

Kevin Haley, Parks, Landscape Architect
Thomas Cheney, Lake Park Friends
Sue Black, Director, Parks Recreation and Culture

Mr. Cheney gave a brief overview of the projects implemented by the Friends group. He also gave a slideshow and background of the historic Lake Park buildings. The current requested projects include replacing the current stage with a non-intrusive structure where the current stage is located, and a project to restore and improve the Lake Park Waterfall Ravine. The ravine project will capture rainwater drainage from the golf course into storage tanks and release it at a controlled rate. A rain garden will be constructed to assist in filtering and discharging the runoff prior to it reaching Lake Michigan.

When the stage plans are ready they will bring them to the Parks Committee for review and comment.

Once the projects have been completed, the Friends would like to donate them to Milwaukee County.

MOTION BY: (Sanfelippo) Approve. (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

8. 09-364 From the Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture, requesting authorization to accept a donation from the Todd Wehr Foundation and the Friends of Wehr Nature Center, and authorize construction of a proposed nature theme play environment for toddlers and pre-school age children at the Wehr Nature Center in Whitnall Park.

APPEARANCES:

Chuck Ward, Parks, Chief of Operations
Paul Brings, Friends of Wehr
Deb McRae, Director, Wehr Nature Center

Mr. Brings spoke to the Committee of the Todd Wehr Foundation's support along with two other families for this early childhood education project. The play environment will be accessible to 1,000 preschoolers. A path boardwalk is available for use by people with disabilities.

SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):

Ms. McRae commented on the free space area design for preschool exploration.

Supervisors gave kudos to all the Friends groups, volunteers and donations for the Park's projects included in today's agenda.

MOTION BY: (Sanfelippo) Approve. (Vote 7-0)

AYES: Sanfelippo, Coggs, Dimitrijevic, Rice, Larson, Lipscomb and Broderick (Chair) - 7

NOES: - 0

Staff Present:

Ms. Vera Westphal, Assistant Director, Zoo

Mr. Phillip Hung, Managing Architect, Department Transportation and Public Works

Mr. Tim Detzer, Environmental Engineer, Department of Transportation and Public Works

Ms. Sue Black, Director, Parks Recreation and Culture

Mr. Kevin Haley, Parks, Landscape Architect

Mr. James Keegan, Parks, Chief of Planning and Development

Mr. Jack Takerian, Interim Director, Transportation and Public Works

Ms. Shirley Dommer-Walczak, Director, Boerner Botanical Garden

Mr. Chuck Ward, Parks, Chief of Operations

Ms. Deb McRae, Director, Wehr Nature Center

Ms. Julie Esch, County Board, Research Analyst

This meeting was recorded. Committee files contain copies of the subject reports, communications, resolutions, and ordinances, which may be reviewed upon request to the Chief Committee Clerk. The official copy of these minutes, along with the audio recording of this meeting, are available in the County Board Committee Services Division.

Length of meeting: Approximately 9:07 a.m. until 11:25 a.m.
Carol Mueller, Committee Clerk

DEADLINE FOR THE PARKS, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

The next regular meeting for the Parks Committee is **October 27, 2009**. **All items for the agenda must be in the Committee Clerk's possession by the end of the business day on Tuesday, October 13, 2009.**

ADA accommodation requests should be filed with the Milwaukee County Office for Persons with Disabilities 278-3932 (voice) or 278-3937 (TTY) upon receipt of this notice.