



## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Meeting of August 14, 2013



### CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Welles called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM at the Indian Point Campground gazebo, 7000 Pulaski St, Duluth.

Members Present: Joel Braun, Erica Erickson, Jon Welles, and Michael Schraepfer.

Member(s) Absent: Thomas Albright, Eric Viken, Ed Hall, Susan Beasy Latto, and Andy Holak.

Also Attending: Art Johnston, Duluth City School Board Liaison, Kathy Bergen, Parks and Recreation Division Manager, Amy Godsell, Parks and Recreation Project Technician, Dale Sellner, Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, Jim Shoberg, architect with Architectural Resources Inc., Kay Biga, Lawyer with Spot Law Office, Norman Opack, property owner, Viann Rusk, property owner, and Charlie Stauduhar and Inge Maskun, Managers of Indian Point Campground.

Members of the Parks and Recreation Commission were welcomed to the Indian Point Campground by Charlie Stauduhar and Inge Maskun, Managers of Indian Point Campground. Mr. Stauduhar and Ms. Maskun provided the Commission an informative update on the continued development of the Indian Point Campground facilities and features, including the increase this year in reservations and positive feedback from the public.

The minutes for the meeting of August 14, 2013 were tabled due to the lack of a quorum. A special meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

### PRESENTATIONS:

#### Parks Referendum

Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, Dale Sellner, updated the commission on Referendum projects throughout the City. Mr. Sellner commented on how essential the additional staff was to completing projects and maintaining parks. The Referendum fund made it possible to hire the additional staff.

- Lester Park Playground - Completed; new sod and landscaping, trees planted, backstop fence replaced.
- Washington Community Center - In Progress; new park area, fence replaced, new playground is planned.
- Tree & Trails Staff- 6 full time crew members
- Enger Park- In Progress; new stage added to gazebo, lighting, updated bathroom facility. Ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled for September 20, 2013. Invitations to go out shortly.

## **Opack Property Settlement**

Kay Biga, lawyer with Spot Law Office, representing property owners, Norman Opack and Viann Rusk, presented the Commission an informative update and a 3-point solution to the property problem between the Opack property and the City of Duluth. Problem: Mr. Opack and Ms. Rusk own a house which sits on City property (see pages 5-7).

3-step solution:

- Purchase plots 1 and 2 (see pages 6-7) from the Rail Road company; Completed.
- Speak with the Commission on purchasing additional land from the City of Duluth. (See plots outlined in red on map, page 6). This purchase includes the plots where the wells are located.
- Once purchase is made, Mr. Opack and Ms. Rusk can petition to vacate Natchez St.

This is the second presentation by Mr. Opack and Ms. Rusk; minutes to the original presentation from December 8, 2010 are attached (see page 4). Mr. Opack and Ms. Rusk stated that they plan to keep the nature area setting intact and have no plans to develop any permanent structure if land is purchased from the City.

No action was set in motion; a special meeting to discuss this further will be scheduled shortly.

## **Irving Mini Master Plan**

Jim Shoberg of Architectural Resources Inc. presented the Commission an informative update on the mini master plan for the Irving Community Recreation Area. Mr. Shoberg presented drawings for two concepts.

- Major differences: cost, parking, field location, retaining walls, fence, seating, and the pavilion building.
  - Concept A: estimated cost is \$2.4-\$2.5 Million.
  - Concept B: estimated cost is \$1.4-\$1.5 Million.

Discussion and questions by the Commission followed the presentation. Both concepts will be presented to Mayor Don Ness in the near future.

## **COMMISSION COMMITTEES:**

Tabled for the next meeting.

Suggestion made to adjourn due to the lack of a quorum.

Invitations to a Duluth Legacy Endowment Fund event to be held at the new Spirit Mountain Chalet will be going out soon. The event is set for September 18, 2013 at 5:30pm

## **Duluth Traverse:**

Art Johnson, Duluth City School Board Liaison, updated the Commission on the easement the School Board has informally agreed to through the Central High property for the Duluth Traverse. Mr. Johnson reported that the zoning issue between the school and the city is still on going and has been pulled from the agenda, but work toward a resolution will continue. A resolution is not expected for this year.

## **Hartley Property**

Interest in purchasing the property owned by the School Board for Hartley Park is still there. Funds to purchase the land are needed. Land swapping was discussed at the public meeting for Hartley Park as a potential alternative if funds are unavailable.

### **DIVISION MANAGER'S REPORT:**

A budget meeting was held to work out the projects for 2014. A project list is not yet complete, but progress is being made for the \$2.6 million budget.

Enger Park construction is moving along. Expected completion is September 19, 2013. A stage has been added to the new gazebo area, the bathroom building entrance and stalls have been expanded to make them accessible, trail work, and a rotary symbol in the plaza area will be added.

The Lakewalk ribbon cutting ceremony invitations will be going out soon.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT/SPEAKERS:**

There were no additional public comments or speakers beyond those received during the discussion of the matters on the Agenda above.

### **ADJORNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM, on motion of Commissioner Jon Welles and a unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Godsell, Project Technician

\*Minutes from Mr. Opack's original presentation.

## **Parks & Recreation Commission**

Minutes of 8 December 2010

**Members Present:** Karen Erickson, Joel Braun, Nick Lansing, Barbara Stark, Jon Welles, Thomas Beery, Andy Holak, Eric Viken, Patti Nadeau

**Members Excused:** Susan Beasy Latto

**Members Absent:** Kristin Ridgewell

**Introduction of New Commissioners:** Nick welcomed new Commissioners Jon Welles, Andy Holak, and Thomas Beery.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion made by Karen Erikson to approve minutes of November 22 as written - seconded by Patti Nadeau - passed unanimously.

**Presentations:**

Sale of City Property Acquired Via Condemnation Proceedings for "Park Purposes" - Norman Opack and Tim Howard

Mr. Opack described conditions on the property, location of property, and inquired whether there is any continued park purpose for this property while explaining his request to purchase.

The property was originally acquired by the City in 1912 through condemnation for park purposes.

Motion was made by Karen Erickson recommending the release of the proposed City property for sale as described in the request received from Norman Opack - seconded by Jon Welles – passed unanimously.

**Hunter and Markell's Grassy Addition to Duluth**

Block 21, Lots 1, 2, 31, 32

Block 20, Lots 1, 2

Four lots 25' x 125' = 12,500 sq. ft.

Two small lots with odd dimensions = 1,443.25 sq. ft.

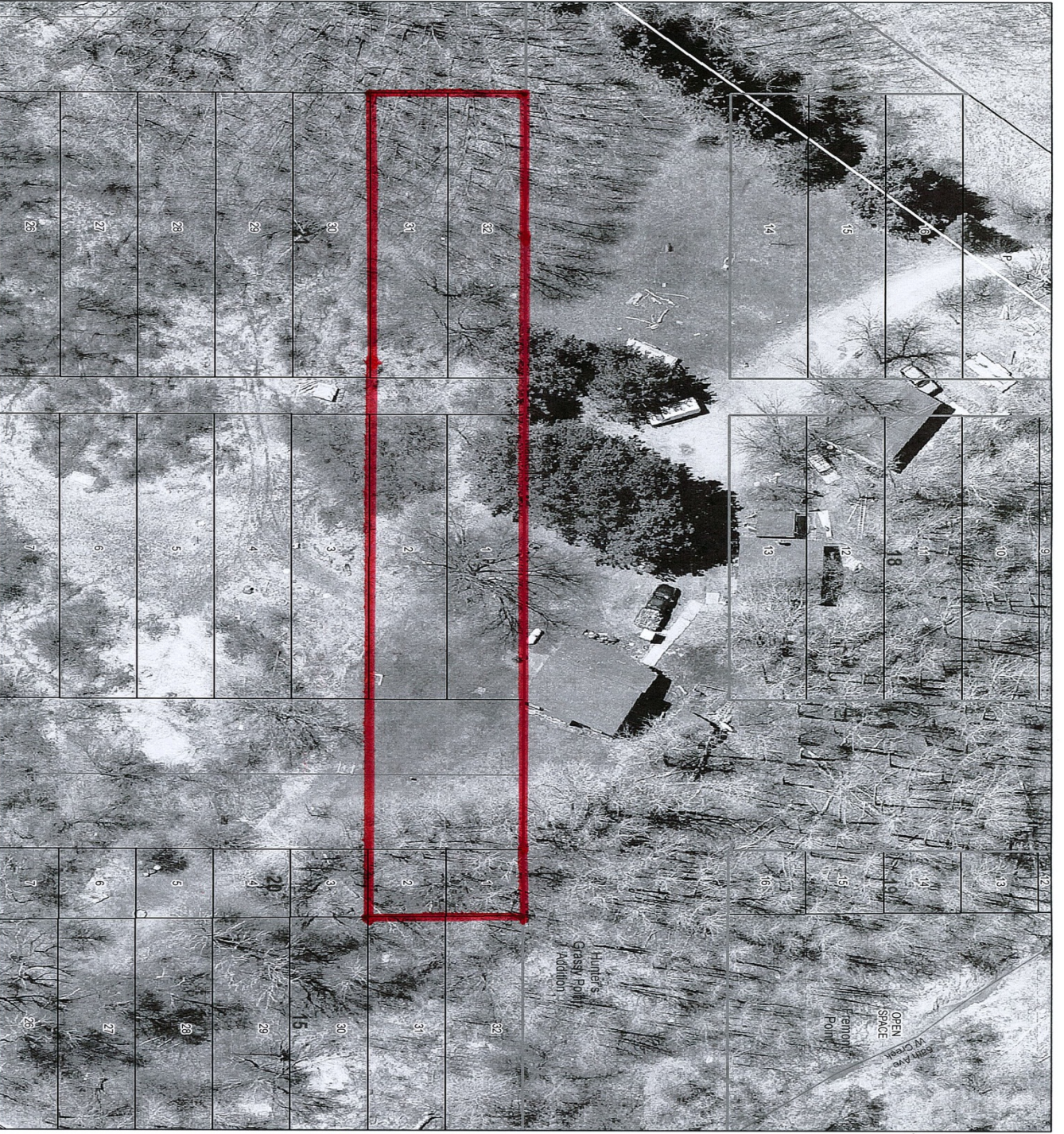
Vacated alley and street = 4,100 sq. ft.

**Total of 18,043.25 sq. ft.**

Cost per sq. ft. = \$.90

**Total Cost = \$16,258.93**





**Duluth Parks**

**Trail Features**

**Trail Use**

- Multi-Purpose
- Hawk Ridge Trails
- Superior Hiking Trail
- Lake Superior College Interpretive Trail



Printed date: 9/6/2013



**City of Duluth Parks, Trails and Bikeways**

The City of Duluth has used the information contained in this map or electronic document as accurate. The City of Duluth makes no warranty or guarantee concerning the accuracy or completeness of the information shown on this map. The information is provided for informational purposes only. The City of Duluth shall not be liable for errors or omissions in this information. The City of Duluth shall not be liable for any damages or losses resulting from the use of this information, including but not limited to, direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages.



