

Metro Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Committee
October 15, 1996 Summary Meeting Minutes
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Metro Regional Center, Room 270

Present: Bob Akers, Rick Charriere, Seth Tane, Ivy Frances, Brian Scott, Katharine Diack, Michael Reid, Charles Ciecko, Pat Lee, Mel Huie, Ron Klein, Jennifer Budhabatti, Metro Councilor Susan McLain

Chairman Bob Akers called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Ron Klein provided an update on the Open Spaces Acquisition Program and distributed the quarterly report covering August-September 1996. As of September 30, Metro had closed on 1,155 acres of open space.

Seth Tane provided an update on the Angel Brothers quarry permit application. The site is near Forest Park and the Burlington Northern rails-to-trails project site. The county is considering permit conditions that would preclude expansion of the current quarry.

It was brought to the attention Michael Reid's brother, a research scientist at Union Carbide, that the technology to underground powerlines has improved in cost effectiveness to be competitive with overhead installation. Reid commented that perhaps Metro can require undergrounding powerlines across greenspaces as policy. Charles Ciecko requested background material to review.

Charles Ciecko distributed the FY97-98 budget development schedule. A Directors Requested Budget will be submitted to the Executive Office in November. The RPAGAC will have an opportunity to review the requested budget at the December committee meeting.

Seth Tane was appointed the RPAGAC representative to serve on WRPAC. Ivy Frances stepped down from the position due to conflict of interest. Rick Charriere will serve as an alternate.

Rosemary Furfy (Metro staff liaison to WRPAC) provided a summary of WRPAC activities, roles and responsibilities. Furfy noted that the revised WRPAC By-laws will reflect RPAGAC representation. The Council will confirm the committee members in November. The WRPAC is currently working on Title 3 of the functional plan and will begin work on the Water Quality/Supply/Floodplain components of the Regional Framework Plan.

Seth and Frances expressed concern that Title 3 did not take a watershed approach to water quality/quantity issues. Furfy and Councilor McLain responded by saying that it is the intent of the RUGGOs to address water issues in a more comprehensive way, but Title 3 is only a start in dealing with these issues.

Mel Huie provided an update of the rails/trails regional study and review the status of trails projects. There are 681 rails-to-trails projects, totaling 7,800 miles in the lower 48 states. Most of the projects are in the eastern US. The Rails-Trials Opportunities Study contracted by Metro will analyze the approximately 500 miles of rail in the Portland metropolitan area. Preliminary study results indicate the region has 15 potential trail projects associated with rails. The study is expected to be completed in December 1996.

Bob Akers adjourned the committee meeting at 8:15PM.