

## MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

September 2, 1993

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Mike Gates (Chair), Sandi Hansen, Terry Moore

Committee Members Excused: Jim Gardner, Judy Wyers

Councilors Also Present: Roger Buchanan, Ruth McFarland, Susan McLain, Richard Devlin, Jon Kvistad

1. Consideration of August 19, 1993 Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

The Committee and Councilor Devlin discussed the intent of the MOU with regard to the Natural Areas Acquisition and Protection Fund, and it was noted that the County would retain authority over the fund. Councilor Moore requested a correction to the minutes at sentence 2, paragraph 9, page 4 of the August 19, 1993 Governmental Affairs Committee minutes to read: "Mr. Engstrom noted ~~also a new fund was intended,~~ that the Natural Areas Acquisition and Protection Fund would not be transferred to Metro as part of the merger."

Motion. Councilor Moore moved to approve the August 19, 1993 Governmental Affairs Committee meeting minutes as submitted with inclusion of corrections.

Vote. Councilors Hansen, Moore and Gates voted aye.

The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

2. Communications from Local Governments

Chair Gates noted he had communicated with John Anderson of McKeever-Morris regarding FOCUS, and said the FOCUS Steering Committee prepared language for consideration by the Governmental Affairs Committee. Chair Gates said the language provided for the nomination of regional governments and/or agencies to the Steering Committee.

3. Status Report on Negotiations with Multnomah County on Transfer of Operations of Regional Parks and Expo Facilities

Jennifer Sims, Director of Finance and Management Information, distributed a binder document entitled "Background Material, Multnomah Co. - Metro Agreement, Transfer of Parks & Expo."

Ms. Sims addressed the Committee and discussed the financial implications of the proposed transfer. Ms. Sims referenced her memorandum dated September 2, 1993 regarding funding projections for the Multnomah County Parks/Expo Transfer. This document has been made part of the permanent meeting record. She highlighted key assumptions and a Regional Parks and Expo Financial Forecast. She noted the projected fund balance was \$450,000 rather than \$183,000. Ms. Sims indicated it was her understanding that was due primarily, to a successful year at the Expo Center. Ms. Sims said, with specific assumptions concerning fee increases and the application of excise tax to functions with eligible revenues, that the projections showed that for the first three years of operation would be better than break-even. She said in the fourth year support the amount of \$25,000 from the General Fund would be needed. Ms. Sims indicated no operating revenues were intended for planned enhancements.

Ms. Sims discussed three options considered for funding Expo capital improvements; 1) current revenues, 2) an interfund loan from the Oregon Convention Center, and, 3) an amendment to Multnomah County's transient lodging tax ordinance to permit a broader use of a portion of the tax.

Councilor Moore requested a financial analysis specific to the individual cemeteries

Paula Paris, Personnel Manager, said a benefits analysis had been prepared and submitted to the unions for consideration and review. She said negotiations had been concluded with the labor unions involved. She said employees would be placed in current applicable pay ranges and classifications, with a few changes involved.

Chair Gates opened a public hearing

Frank Knapp, Portland citizen, addressed the Committee indicating his opposition to the proposed transfer. He advocated such a proposal should be brought before the citizens for a vote

In response to Councilor McLain, Mr Knapp said he understood discussions regarding the County Fair were to be underway in October. He was unaware of discussion regarding moving the Fair to another site. He supported the Fair location remaining at the Expo Center.

In response to Councilor McFarland, Mr Knapp said he could not assume the Fair would be treated poorly if placed under Metro authority.

Charles Hales, Commissioner, City of Portland, addressed the Committee in support of the proposed transfer, and noted the project had recently been assigned to him for review and comment. Commissioner Hales discussed neighborhood parks that had been transferred to Multnomah County, and said the City of Portland recommended the exclusion of the eight neighborhood parks referenced in the MOU from the proposed transfer to Metro. He noted Vance Park was in the City of Gresham and was not included in his proposal.

Councilor Hansen agreed with Commissioner Hales proposal, and said she felt the neighborhood parks did not serve regional objectives

In response to Councilor Moore, Commissioner Hales said he was confident the City of Portland would annex the remainder of the neighborhood parks not yet transferred. He noted it was assumed the level of maintenance with which they were currently maintained would be continued after they were transferred to the City.

Casey Short, Council Analyst, summarized the issue, and said the neighborhood parks would be transferred, under Commissioner Hales proposal, to the City of Portland, at which time the City would take over ownership and maintenance responsibilities

In response to Councilor Hansen, Commissioner Hales said the City of Portland could execute an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the County and accomplish the transfer of the referenced parks.

Commissioner Hales discussed the proposed transfer of Glendoveer Golf Course, and said the City of Portland was willing to enter into negotiations at a later date regarding the possibility of transferring the golf course. He indicated he was satisfied with the present proposal regarding the golf course, but would be interested in future discussions.

Councilor Devlin thanked Commissioner Hales for addressing the Committee

Councilor McLain and Commissioner Hales noted the cemeteries did not fit the missions of the governmental agencies involved including the City of Portland. Councilor McLain commented that possibly other private and/or public agencies were interested in the cemeteries, for cultural and/or historical reasons. Commissioner Hales said the City of Portland would consider negotiating maintaining the cemeteries if savings to the public were determined.

In response to Councilor Hansen, Commissioner Hales indicated he would be willing to address the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners regarding issues of mutual concern in the proposal

In response to Councilor Moore, Neil Saling, Director of Regional Facilities, and expressed confidence that the facilities would operate successfully under Metro authority, and felt the Expo Center could operate in tandem with the Convention Center. Councilor McFarland concurred.

Councilor Devlin said Metro and County representatives had discussed preservation of the future of the Fair, and he referenced page 6 and 7 of the MOU, subsection G.

Councilor Devlin noted Vance Park was excluded from the MOU, and asked Betsy Williams, Director of Environmental Services, Multnomah County, to address the Committee concerning current agreements. Ms Williams said Vance Park had been built over a quarry owned by the road program and developed as a neighborhood park. She said the tentative agreement between the County and the City of Gresham was, as the facility was quarried, another park location would be established by the County in Gresham as a substitute, which would then be transferred to the City of Gresham.

Ms. Williams said the original intent of the MOU was to engage in the transfer of the neighborhood parks to the City upon annexation, and said they were not viewed as part of the regional vision. She said Multnomah County would clarify that matter in the MOU, and noted it appeared the City of Portland was interested in taking over some of the neighborhood parks in advance of annexation. She noted that had not been the position of the City in the past.

Ms Williams noted Mr. Knapp was a member of the County Fair Task Force appointed by Multnomah County earlier in 1993 to help produce the 1993 Fair and to develop recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on the future of the Fair. She noted that report was due in October, 1993, and noted further the Task Force hoped to have their recommendations even sooner. She said the MOU had been left unclear pending receipt of the report.

Chair Gates referenced a memorandum from Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel, and Mark B. Williams, Senior Assistant Council, dated May 7, 1993 to Councilor Van Bergen. This document was located in the previously referenced "Background Material." Chair Gates discussed the concept of facilities having metropolitan significance or concern.

Councilor Devlin outlined a process in the proposed transfer: 1) the MOU; 2) an IGA; 3) two years of operation, and, 4) a future decision by the Metro Council and the County to transfer the assets. He said the issue of metropolitan significance or concern was identified in Mr. Cooper's memorandum as an issue to be addressed where applicable when the actual transfer of assets occurred.

Councilor McLain felt the issue of metropolitan concern, as distinguished from metropolitan significance, was broader based, charter driven, would need to be addressed at large in the future and covered greater ground than the current proposed parks and Expo transfer.

Councilor Hansen referenced a memorandum from Clackamas County dated August 31, 1993, and discussed planning emphasis. This document has been made a part of the permanent meeting record.

Councilor Moore commented regarding the regional mandates of the Greenspaces Master Plan and the role of the proposed transfer as the beginning of the implementation of that plan. She felt language for the actual transfer should align with the Greenspaces Master Plan by which first steps toward addressing the regional significance of specific properties could be accomplished.

Councilor Devlin suggested Council Staff develop a response to the August 31, 1993 Clackamas County memorandum. Chair Gates felt an appropriate response would be to make available one of the referenced "Background Materials" binders, rather than specific memorandum.

Chair Gates suggested the Governmental Affairs Committee prepare to vote at the next Committee meeting regarding the MOU with the presence of the Presiding Officer and the remaining member of the Committee, Jim Gardner.

The Committee discussed whether or not the matter would come before the Metro Policy Advisory Committee prior to Governmental Affairs Committee vote

Merrin Waylett, Office of Government Affairs, addressed the Committee, and said discussions were underway with MPAC members, the City and the County, and said the matter was not scheduled to come before the next meeting of MPAC

Councilor Devlin suggested direction be given to Council Staff regarding deletion of the matter of the neighborhood parks from the MOU and a new recommendation for an effective date for the transfer. Chair Gates agreed, and noted a current effective date of January 1, 1994 was slated for the MOU. Councilor Devlin suggested also communication with Gussie McRobert, Mayor of Gresham and Chair of MPAC, that the Committee intended to act on the MOU at the next Committee meeting, and he suggested asking MPAC Chair McRobert whether or not further activity by MPAC was anticipated concerning the matter.

Chair Gates noted he did not see a reason to place the matter on the agenda for September 16, which would be in advance of any MPAC meeting. He felt the matter could be heard October 7, and requested Committee discussion. He noted a resolution could be prepared by that time to facilitate moving the matter forward. Mr. Carlson agreed.,

The Committee held discussion regarding timing, preparation of legislation, possible action on the matter, the role of MPAC, sensitivity to the interrelation between the governments involved, as well as Staff assignments.

Councilor Hansen did not agree with the proposed timeline and urged the Committee hear the matter for vote on September 16, 1993, forwarding the matter to the Metro Council at its first October meeting.

Mr. Carlson said he understood the attorneys were currently preparing the IGA. Mr. Carlson said Council Staff intended to have a resolution prepared for Committee review at its September 16 meeting as well as amendments to the MOU.

Further discussion by the Committee followed concerning the timing of action by the Committee and the Metro Council.

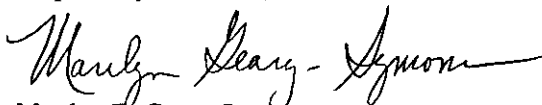
Chair Gates indicated he would work with Council Staff to prepare a letter MPAC Chair McRobert.

Councilor Devlin clarified Council Staff would amend the MOU in connection with the neighborhood parks annexation.

Chair Gates directed the Council Staff to draft the letter to MPAC advising of the schedule, and include the packet of information distributed to the Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p m

Respectfully submitted,



Marilyn E. Geary-Symons  
Committee Recorder