

Metro Policy Advisory Committee

October 13, 1993 - Meeting Summary

Members present: Judie Hammerstad, Acting Chair; Kathy Christy, Richard Devlin, Rob Drake, Bud Farm, Judith Fessler, Jim Gardner, Charlie Hales, Gary Hansen, Darlene Hooley, Susan McLain, Rob Mitchell, Terry Moore, Chuck Petersen, Arnold Polk, Alice Schlenker, Jean Schreiber, Sandra Suran, Bruce Thompson and Jim Zehren.

Others in attendance included: Dan Cooper, Barbara Duncan, John Fregonese, Sharron Kelly, Dean Lookingbill, Gail Ryder, Jennifer Sims, Stuart Todd, Mark Turpel, Terry Vanderkooy and Merrie Waylett.

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Vice Chair Hammerstad and a quorum was declared.

I. Roll Call and Introductions

II. Visitors Comments - None

III. Approval of Minutes of September 22, 1993

There was an addition to the minutes submitted by Chair McRobert (who was absent), read into the record by Vice Chair Hammerstad: "The minutes of the Charter Committee seem to classify Glendoveer as a recreational facility rather than a sporting facility and the Chair asked Merrie Waylett to review the Charter Committee minutes for the next meeting." Merrie Waylett stated that Dan Cooper's memo addressed that concern.

The minutes of September 22, 1993 were approved with the noted addition.

IV. Multnomah County Parks/Greenspaces Proposed Merger

Sandra Suran reported on the findings of a Financial Audit Subcommittee, which consisted of herself, Arnold Polk and Judie Hammerstad. The subcommittee's recommendation consisted of several amendments to be added to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), outlined in a memo to MPAC (October 4, 1993, item 6.1 A in the packet):

"Prior to signing an intergovernmental agreement, a financial analysis will be completed and will include the following points:

A. Agreement between Multnomah County and Metro on projected (for the next five years) financial performance of all properties and programs to be merged with Metro prior to the signing of the intergovernmental agreement. The levels of measurement will be part of the mutual agreement.

B. That any financial shortfall or discrepancies which occur in operation/use of transferred facilities be borne by both Metro and Multnomah County, with Multnomah County's responsibility decreasing during the time of transition.

C. After the intergovernmental agreement becomes effective, Metro is to perform an operations audit on the combined operations as part of the regional government assuming management of programs and facilities.

D. An oversight committee comprised of representatives from Multnomah County, Metro and Washington County or Clackamas County will review actual performance, versus projected (including method of allocation of costs), on a quarterly basis and report to both Metro and Multnomah County."

Sandra Suran stated that due to financial recording and accounting reasons, it would likely not be worth the effort and expense to do a financial audit.

Discussion followed on the proposed amendments, concerns mentioned included:

- How can performance and financial risk of the parks and facilities for the next five years be guaranteed? How can the financial risk be shared between Multnomah County and Metro if management of the operations are not shared? Can risk be shared, but not benefits?
- Is the real question 'Can these facilities be run better or more efficiently after this transfer'?
- Does transferred employees include all parks employees? How many employees are assigned to the neighborhood parks? What about existing labor agreements?

Councilor Moore stated that the Governmental Affairs Committee had approved changes in the wording of the MOU regarding the neighborhood parks: (deletions in ~~strikeout~~, additions in **boldface**):

- 1) Page one, first sentence: "The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide for a two-phase consolidation of operation, management and ownership of **all** park facilities, natural areas, and trade/spectator facilities presently owned and operated by Multnomah County, including but not limited to **(and with the exception of all neighborhood parks)** Glendoveer Golf Course, Pioneer Cemeteries, and the Portland Exposition Center.....".
- 2) Page one, second sentence: "The first phase of consolidation.....including transfer of ownership of the County facilities to Metro, with the exception of ~~any~~ **all** neighborhood parks."
- 3) Page two, item I. A. 1.: "~~All~~ **p**Park facilities and natural areas currently owned or operated by COUNTY with the exception of ~~Vance Park~~ **all neighborhood parks**"
- 4) On the map attached to the MOU, "Multnomah County Park Services Division": Delete right hand column "~~Neighborhood Parks~~".

Motion: Mayor Drake moved that MPAC endorse the above changes to the MOU as proposed by the Governmental Affairs Committee. The motion was seconded by Arnold Polk and passed unanimously.

Councilor McLain stated that the items in the subcommittee's amendments are being addressed at the bargaining table.

Discussion occurred on the suggested oversight committee, who might that consist of?

Sandra Suran suggested that the oversight committee consist of representatives from Metro and Multnomah County and another qualified representative.

Commissioner Hammerstad stated that the oversight committee should contain a representative from Washington or Clackamas County.

Motion: Mayor Drake moved that MPAC recommend to Council to include in the MOU the amendments made by the Financial Audit Subcommittee, and that a representative from Washington or Clackamas County be on the oversight committee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fessler.

Amendment to the Motion: Commissioner Hansen stated that monitoring of financial performance only up to the point of land transfer makes more sense than monitoring for five years. Members agreed.

Amendment A will read:

"Agreement between Multnomah County and Metro on projected (for the next **two five** years)..."

Vote: On the motion to recommend to Council that the amendments as stated above be added to the MOU. The motion passed, Commissioner Hansen abstained.

Commissioner Hammerstad asked if members wanted to add an amendment by MPAC Chair McRobert, also from the October 4th memo to MPAC, which reads:

"To ensure a smooth transition of ownership, criteria of "metropolitan concern" will be defined by Metro prior to signing an intergovernmental agreement since any permanent transfer of parks, open spaces and/or recreational facilities must meet the Charter mandated requirement of being of "metropolitan concern".

Motion: Mayor Schlenker moved to include the above amendment in MPAC's recommendation to Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hooley.

Vote: The motion passed.

Councilor Devlin stated that in November two items will be coming before Council; a resolution authorizing the Executive Officer to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement and an ordinance that will adopt findings on each of the facilities and how they fit within the Charter.

Councilor Schreiber stated concern that the transfer would not benefit the region or improve the parks.

Councilor Gardner stated that the Council realizes that this issue has interest from many others around the region and therefore, asked MPAC to review the MOU and comment.

Councilor Moore stated that Dan Cooper's memo to Presiding Officer Judy Wyers (in agenda packet item 6.1 B) was very helpful on the issue of metropolitan concern (bottom of page 7). Councilor Moore suggested that on page 8 of the MOU, under "Personnel" the sentence be changed to read:

"All staff presently budgeted in the County recreation fund shall may be transferred to Metro....."

Rob Mitchell asked if this change was in the group of wording changes made by the Governmental Affairs Committee?

Councilor Moore stated that this change was separate, Governmental Affairs had not discussed personnel.

Commissioner Hansen stated that he would object to this amendment as it enters into labor issues without full legal counsel.

Commissioner Hales suggested that wording be added to page 2, last line to refer to the pending agreement regarding the neighborhood parks:

"Park facilities and natural areas.....with the exception of all neighborhood parks to be transferred to the City of Portland under separate agreement...".

Motion: Commissioner Hales moved that MPAC support the Memorandum of Understanding with the above wording changes suggested by Councilor Moore and himself. The motion was seconded by Sandra Suran.

Vote: Ayes, the motion passed.

V. Descriptive Indicators and October 27th MPAC Meeting

John Fregonese distributed a memo on the next meeting on the 27th which will be a joint MPAC/JPACT meeting. Coordination with Clark County and Vancouver will be discussed. John stated that Metro has met with Duncan Wyse at the Progress Board. He asked for a subcommittee to be formed that could meet with staff and the consultant working on descriptive indicators to bring a recommendation back to MPAC. Jim Zehren agreed to be Chair of the Descriptive Indicators subcommittee.

Commissioner Hales stated that with MPAC, JPACT and Clark County representatives in the same room, we should discuss how the Regional Framework Plan and the Regional Transportation Plan impact each other.

John Fregonese responded that he agreed, the briefing section of the meeting would be kept brief to allow for such a discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barbara Duncan.