

# PARK COMMISSION

## Community Forum

November 15, 2012

6 p.m. Community Forum Meeting Minutes

---

**Members Present:** Chair Patty Rezabek, Commissioners; Amy Johnson, Jody Spurduto

**Absent:** Commissioner Robert Ball and Rick Manning

**Staff Present:** Council Liaison Linn Ferguson, Council Members Jill Bartel and Mike Taylor, and City Clerk Diane Tiegs-Roussell.

**Residents in attendance:** David Boschwitz, Lilla Gidlow, Rita Howarth, Orono Community Service Officer Jason Barnes, and HCSO Lake Patrol Officers Rick Rehman and David Protiviashu.

1. **Chair Rezabek, Call to Order 6:05 p.m.**

2. **Commentary on proposed project**

Chair Rezabek addressed those in attendance by summarizing the proposed project to be led by David Boschwitz. David Boschwitz is a young local resident who is in the process of earning his Eagle Scout badge. He chosen project is to address the possible erosion issue at the Arcola dock area. The Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (HCRRA) cut the buckthorn and brush along the steep embankment this past summer. Due to the steep slope there may be some erosion issues. Mr. Boschwitz is proposing to address the possible erosion and do a general clean-up of the area.

Mr. Boschwitz addressed the residents in attendance. He distributed an aerial shot of the area, a picture of the stairway that sits on the embankment, and a proposed plan for erosion control. The erosion control plan has two rows of plantings on the embankment. Mr. Boschwitz obtained a list of plants from the DNR that are recommended for erosion control. The plants selected will have a strong root base to better control erosion. He will also replace more substantial sized logs for the ledges. Council Member Bartel inquired about grant funding for this project. The stairway is in need of some general maintenance and if grant funding is obtained solar lighting could be installed to help with safety. Solar lights could also be a deterrent for vandalism. This is a two part project one is erosion control and two is beautification.

3. **Resident feedback**

Residents in attendance expressed the following:

1. Solar lights could make the area more enticing to trail users that are not residents of the area. Residents do not want the area to become a noisy destination.
2. Lighting may discourage theft from the boats that are docked in the area.
3. The stairs need to be repaired or replaced.
4. Remove the old storage shed.
5. Planting of trees will help deter the road noise that became louder once the embankment was cleared.

Mr. Boschwitz said his project will concentrate on the area just below the crest of the embankment. Chair Rezabek asked the officers in attendance if the area is patrolled. Officers responded that the area is not easily accessible for patrols but an effort can be made to walk back and check the area during the summer months. Mr. Boschwitz will contact Three Rivers Park District Associate Superintendent Boe Carlson who has offered assistance for this project. Council Member Taylor stated this is a large undertaking and perhaps Mr. Boschwitz should only do the erosion control portion of the project. Council Member Taylor said that Mr. Boschwitz will have to obtain permission from the LMCD, HCRRA, and TRPD.

Removal of the shed could be an issue since Public Works Director Young uses shed to store the mower used to maintain the area during the summer months. The City owns the shed and it is doubtful that the LMCD would allow a new shed on the property once the old shed is removed. Council Members Taylor, Ferguson, and Bartel along with the residents in attendance felt that the erosion control is a great project and commended Mr. Boschwitz for his efforts to pursue and complete the project for his Eagle Scout Badge. Mr. Boschwitz schedule is to complete the project by early summer of 2013.

4. The Public Forum adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

City Clerk Tiegs-Roussell