

**Dakota County Planning Commission
 Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes-Final
 Date: June 24, 2021
 Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

Members Present		Staff Present		Others Present	
Jerry Rich	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Timmerman	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Lori Hansen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nate Reitz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Chatfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jill Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jim Guttman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Lewanski	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Greg Oxley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tony Nelson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joe Walton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Amy Hunting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Donald Post	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Barry Graham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dennis Peine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ramraj Singh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

Meeting Called to Order
 Time: 6:20 p.m.
 By: Chair Oxley

Public Comment
 None.

Approval of Agenda
 Motion by: Commissioner Singh
 Second by: Commissioner Graham
 Vote: Unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes (from March 25, 2021 meeting)
 Motion by: Commissioner Graham
 Second by: Commissioner Rich
 Vote: Unanimously approved.

Welcome New Planning Commissioner Dennis Peine

Comments/Notes: Commissioner’s welcomed new Commissioner Peine to the Committee.

Planning Manager Update and County Board Actions

- Adopted Spring Lake Park Reserve Master Plan and Natural Resources Management Plan
- Authorized joint powers agreement with City of Rosemount for Flint Hills Park Trailhead on the Rosemount Greenway
- Authorized purchase of land along the Lake Marion Greenway in southeast Farmington
- Amended JPA with Waterford Township for the Waterford Bridge on the Mill Towns Trail

Upcoming Public Meetings – Community Outreach
 None at this time.

Topics for Next Meeting (The July meeting is scheduled to be in-person)

- Natural Resources Management Plans for North Creek Greenway, Lake Marion Greenway, Vermillion River Greenway (Hastings segment)
- Review proposed Land Conservation Plan program criteria
- All-Hazard Mitigation Plan update

Planning Commissioner Announcements/Updates

Commissioner Hansen provided an update on South St. Paul Kaposia Days.

Item #1: Miesville Park Reserve Tour

Action / Information

Planning Commissioners started their tour at the Cannon River picnic shelter in the park. Commissioners toured the waterfront, viewed the confluence of the Trout Brook with the Cannon River, and drove to the proposed riverfront landing location. Planning Commissioners also visited the upland restored prairie next to the church and the proposed trailhead on the north end of the park reserve.

Questions and comments by Commissioners along with responses from staff (italics):

Comments/Notes: Kurt Chatfield, Planning Manager, provided an overview of Miesville Ravine Park Reserve and the current master plan. Joe Walton, Parks Natural Resource Senior Ecologist, presented on the state of the park’s natural resources and active restoration efforts.

Questions and comments by Commissioners along with responses from staff (italics):

There was general discussion by the Planning Commission on the following topics:

Cannon River Access: Canoers and tubers currently launch from Orlando Trail using an undesignated landing, and there are some safety and erosion concerns at this location. A better situation is desirable.

Park Boundary: While approximately 80% of the park is located in Dakota County, about 20% of the park area is in Goodhue County to provide Cannon River access and its recreational opportunities.

Connectivity to Lake Byllesby Regional Park: Lake Byllesby Regional Park is upstream of Miesville Ravine Park Reserve on the Cannon River. There may be opportunities for the two parks to be enjoyed together for canoeing or bicycling along the Cannon Valley Trail, especially given the recent improvements at Lake Byllesby.

Private Property: There is a significant amount of private property within the park reserve boundary. The private land along the southeast boundary borders the Cannon River and has been identified as a location for a potential improved river landing. Private property in the upland areas would improve the natural resources, especially water management.

Cultural Resources: Significant cultural resources have been identified throughout the Cannon River Valley, including within Miesville Park Reserve. Staff answered questions about how Native American Leaders would be engaged in the upcoming planning process.

Natural Resource Projects: County staff have coordinated with the SWCD on numerous natural resource management projects. One of the greatest challenges is managing surface water that makes its way to the trout brook. The park reserve is at the bottom of a large watershed, and management of the land outside of the park reserve is critical to protecting the park reserves’ natural resources.

Use of Land Conservation Tools: *The use of land protection tools, such as conservation easements that would keep land in native grasses, is a real opportunity for managing stormwater.*

Natural Resource Quality: *Miesville Ravine Park Reserve has high-quality natural communities as identified in the DNR Biological Survey. There is a real opportunity to preserve and restore the rich biological diversity in this area.*

Natural Resource Management Plan: *A consultant has been selected to prepare a Natural Resources Management Plan. The Plan will begin this summer and provide a basis to update the master plan that will begin in late 2021 or early 2022.*

Adjourn: 8:05 p.m.

Motion by: Commissioner Hansen

Second: Commissioner Nelson

Vote: Unanimously approved.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, July 22, 2021. The next meeting is planned to be in-person and final details about the location and meeting room will be distributed with the July meeting agenda.