Como Woods Outdoor Classroom Advisory committee

MINUTES

Monday, October 25, 2010

1. **Report out-Joyce Kilmer Memorial Fireplace and Poet-Tree workshops**

Sharon, Kelley, and Deb lead 75 sixth grade students of Como Park Elementary, three teachers, 2 teacher assistants on an informational/educational tour of CWOC in preparation for their Poet-tree Workshops on Oct. 18. Weather was great and the kids were happy to be outside. We heard that the workshops were a success and we have received three group poems so far. \*\*\*Park & Rec Dir. Hahm has agreed to have his office assist in printing our Kilmer Rededication booklet (although we may have to do the binding; now, Deb has to get that booklet written, and we have to coordinate an event for May 19, 2011).

1. **Recent and upcoming events in the woodland or related to the woodland?**

**Oct. 6**, Deb attended Metropolitan Regional Arts Council information workshop on new grant opportunity “Arts Learning” that could possibly be tapped to do another round of Poet-tree Workshops next year or expand into other arts activities in the CWOC. (I don’t think I will apply for the Nov. 8, 2010 deadline, but will reconsider applying for next deadline: Feb. 7, 2011.

**Oct. 7**, Deb, Susan Jane, and Sharon attended the last Open House for Como Projects & Transportation Plan. There were no visuals provided by city. Deb commented that the triangle of land (across Como Ave next to McMurry Fields) was identified as Maintenance Facility land not CWOC land, and expressed concern that our Master Plan’s roadway suggestion was not in the final recommendations. Bryan said that Kilmer Fireplace restoration would start within two weeks (as of Oct. 25 it had not started – \*\**Do we dare plan a Rededication for May 19, 2011 or not?).*

**Summary of Como Projects & Transportation Open House surveys:** 97.5% resident of St. Paul; Most visit the park for recreational purposes (77.7%); 76.5% visit once per week or more; Como Lake/trails is the area most often visited; Most highly ranked issue: 1) green space).

**Pool Construction Timeline**: *September 2010* – Site work; October *2010* - Beach House foundations and walls; December 2010 - *February 2011* - Mechanical room; *March 2011* - Pool Equipment; April 2011 – Rockwork; *May 2011* - Lazy River excavation and forms/rockwork; *July 2011* - Pool decks; *September 2011* - Pool Start-up and winterization; *May 2012* - Grand Opening

 **Como Park Transportation Planning-**website for the most up to date information

<http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?NID=3556>

**Oct. 13,** Deb, Kelley, and Bryan attended LCCMR educational grant recipients gathering. LCCMR staff informed us of a kerfuffle over a missed deadline (city has yet to sign the agreement – see letter from Adam), but it sounds like we are back on track.

**Oct. 19,** Deb attended theDistrict 10 election/public meeting**:** The Transportation Implementation Plan [action item](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?llr=xdjyfhdab&et=1103796707998&s=445&e=0015YJVHH5PilXvPbWNp2rWBijREPR2_9QTCBWaNI6umB-HHDXSsiwImafAX7XiVkZIPAxA1TNMbuYGDfMZ4X2atEolkNNLrIoyFPmQuoCgQ4xfC8XB8KZxrOlgeVh5Qj48RHvEtOAFpTh1EwZBXRGwmFTsv9WaZx0vtrwYIpPz4xDLLlFejOydoh1cP9Sh3HKl), brought forth by the D. 10 Neighborhood Relations Committee, passed the Board Vote **(10-0)**. The Community vote on the action item was **153 (to not support the Transportation plan as currently written) to 3** (in favor of supporting the proposed Transportation plan). (Mike was not present to read CWOC’s list of accomplishments, but the CWOC list was provided to board members and public attendees).

**3. School Forest update-**no action, Kelley not in attendance.

**4**. **Grant opps/ fiscal agenda—**Forest Service-More Kids in the Woods is a potential. 11/7 update: Teri proposed a mentoring arrangement between a middle/high school and a elementary school. But P/R has recommended that while they endorse the idea to hold off until next when the School Forest arrangement is in place.

**5**. **Website additions-**no reports.

**6. Additions:**

Education kits donated to CWOC by the Forest Service.

ACTION-Teri draft a letter from CWOC committee indicated the education boxes are on long-term loan to SPPR.

**Next meeting dates:** Note that due to a conflict with another D10 committee, CWOC meeting dates have been changed to the last Tuesdays of the month at the Street Car Station.

**Next meeting date: Tuesday November 30**

**Future meeting dates, please mark your calendar--**

Dec. 28

2011

Jan. 25

Feb. 22

Mar. 29

Apr. 26

May 31

June 28