Como Woods Outdoor Classroom Advisory committee

Minutes

Monday, May 24, 2010

First order of business—CELEBRATON!!! Our proposal was on the funded list and signed by the Governor with no changes.

1. **May meeting minutes/Action Status from May meeting:**

ACTION-Teri contact Meghan to remind her about scheduling-no follow up yet but this will be the responsibility of Beth Albrecht’s , volunteer coordinator while Meghan is on maternity leave. Adam will get Beth’s contact information to Teri.

ACTION-Kelley will ask Megan about posting the plant guide on the website-OK to do but not done yet.

ACTION-add Mike M. to the CWOC advisory committee mailing list for minutes-DONE

ACTION-add a notice on the website for donations to the poetry workshops-DONE

ACTION-contact the Governor and any Republication legislators you know about supporting the full LCCMR bill.-DONE

1. **Quick updates:**

* **What new on the website? Any things need to be added?**

**Web site:** the prior field day data still needs to be posted. ACTION-Joan reforward data to Jennifer. New bird data? ACTION-Joan add May 2010 bird data to spreadsheet and send to Jennifer. ACTION-post picture of new award from Friends/Trails organization to website with photo-Teri

* **June teacher meeting-**most recent info-now scheduled for Tuesday June 15 from 5:30-6:45pm. Committee members interested in attending: Joan, Teri, Josh, Lisa, and Kelley.
* **JKMF rededication update and poetry workshops-**see below.
* **Como Park Transportation planning-**Sally Worku has been attending these meetings. Go to the District 10 website for more information. Of particular note is the on-line survey, please go to that link and fill out your interests as they pertain to the outdoor classroom.

**http://www.district10comopark.org/CRPTIP.html**

* **Report out on Como Sr. High Field Day-**about 20 students participated, 4 bird mentors, and 8 student mentors attended on a beautiful day. Bird report: 102 birds of 32 species including a mating pair of Cooper’s Hawks.
* **School Forest update:** Kelley met with Jessica about the status of Como Sr. High’s interest in being our School Forest sponsor-Jessica had met with the principal about this in the fall and he was OK with it. ACTION schedule a meeting with the principal to continue this discussion-DATE SET-June 8. It would also be good to have a briefing about the School Forest at a Como Sr. teachers meeting. ACTION-add Jessica to CWOC advisory committee email list-DONE. A resolution for the school board’s approval has been drafted, has been sent to DNR to look over. Next step need to start working on the Joint Powers agreement.

**Walk through the woods: points of interest from our walk—**

* Teri-have a stop in each one of the major areas—conifers, oaks, wetter low area, transitional forest, fire place, trail where former street car line went through
* Joan-by the bridge your are higher up and easier to see the birds, wet area has Doug   
  Fir, greenbrier is a weird/fun plant (location?)
* Black locust in transitional area-this is a species that sprouts prolifically once cut so need to leave it or treat the stumps with an herbicide.
* Bitternut hickory-large tree, just NW of fireplace.

[**http://www.district10comopark.org/DONATE\_TO\_THE\_POET-TREE\_WORKSHOP\_FUND.html**](http://www.district10comopark.org/DONATE_TO_THE_POET-TREE_WORKSHOP_FUND.html)

# Deb Robinson’s Report to Advisory Committee, May 24, 2010

1) **Sustainable St. Paul** **Award** related. \*April 28, at City Council Chambers, the CWAdvisory Committee received Sustainable St. Paul award in “Greening Spaces” category. Teri, Deb, Ann, Alison, Adam, and Matt attended. (Details and City press release on our website) \*May: Deb wrote press release for Monitor (May edition) – was published with picture. Deb sent press release (slightly modified) as a project update to Councilman Stark, SPAS members, and some other supporters. \*\*\*May 19, 2010 for Rededication Ceremony? At Field Day, I had Jess, Karl, Josh to consult on this date.

For Poet-tree Fund - write checks to: District 10 Environment Committee (memo on check: “Poetry workshops”), and send to: District 10 Community Council, Streetcar Station Museum, 1224 N. Lexington Pkwy., St. Paul MN 55103

2) **Poet-tree Workshops and Kilmer Fireplace Rededication** related. May 3 - 4: worked on D. 10 spring newsletter. Got Kilmer memories notice in spring, but need Poet-tree Fund notice, and Sustainable St. Paul award notice in Summer newsletter. \*May 4 - 7: Sent Rededication documents for a new Rededication page, Sharon suggested changes to OL, info and page completed by Ruth. Poet-tree Donation page, fund, Pay Pal account established on D. 10 website, and linked to CWOC website’s recent Rededication page. \*May 9: Sharon shares email from John Covell, Kilmer biographer, will be in town July 9-19 and said he would talk to us about Kilmer as it relates to our site. \*May 11: after inquiry, Bryan said Kilmer Fireplace City would start restoration late summer.

3) **LCCMR Update** (bring: Legislative document & Our response to veto threat).

\*May 5: Deb and Sharon attended LCCMR Conference Committee session at Capitol; Deb gave testimony and tried to address Gov. Letter (May 4) that hinted at line-item veto of our proposal; and Deb tracked through House and Senate. \*May 6: Adam, Alison, Deb send document to LCCMR Conference Committee per their request. \*May 5 -11: Emails and calls to Gov. in support of our proposal are asked for (SPAS, teachers, Advisors and friends). \*\*May 15, Gov. signs LCCMR Bill with our proposal in it!

4) **May 20**, **Spring Field Day**. 35 participants (20 students, 14 volunteers, 1 teacher). Bird mentors (Chase, Clay Joan, Karen, Holly); field mentors (Teri, Josh, Nick, Ashley, Bob Karl, Dave, Alison); table (Deb); teacher (Jess). 102 birds of 32 species including mated pair Cooper's hawks.

5) **Future Events**. \*June 15: Teri (and Deb) to present CWOC project to District 10’s current board. (Deb will provide public reminder for Poet-tree Fund donations and ask for community memories of fireplace.) \*Sept (TBA): Teachers who are taking part in Poet-tree Workshops ask for presentation on Kilmer Fireplace and CWOC background (Sharon and Deb). \*GRS interest in combined Field Day in Fall (they contacted me about where they can dig, had Jess send field plot locations, and suggested they contact Kelley).

6) **Website** additions: Rededication info page; Poet-tree Fund info; LCCMR Logo added, and LCCMR Bill press release; Macro-invertebrate study; Spring Field Day birding data. Move Field Day to past events, and remove Garlic Mustard Pull.