Minneapolis
Park & Recreation Board

Resolution 2024-32

RESOLUTION APPROVING A DONATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD AND NEW DIRECTIONS YOUTH MINISTRY FOR THE REFRIGERATED ICE RINK PREDESIGN AT NORTH COMMONS PARK

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is the steward of Minneapolis park system;

Whereas, The MPRB owns and operates North Commons Park as a part of its neighborhood park system;

Whereas, The New Direction Youth Ministry, a non-profit corporation, is seeking an opportunity to support the implementation of a Refrigerated Ice Rink at North Commons Park which is included in both the Board approved North Service Area Vision Plan;

Whereas, On May 4, 2022, the MPRB Board of Commissioners approved the Concept Plan for the North Commons Park Phase 1 Improvements project which included the Refrigerated Ice Rink noting that it is "Pending Dedicated Fundraising – Not Currently in Project Scope;"

Whereas, The MPRB capital funds for North Commons Park Phase 1 Improvements do not include funding for predesign, design or construction of the Refrigerated Ice Rink;

Whereas, New Directions has an interest to donate the predesign for the Project through their own fundraising, focused on the refrigerated ice rink that will be used for outdoor basketball courts during the summer months and to possibly include a roof structure;

Whereas, Funds provided by New Directions for the predesign are essential to advancing the Refrigerated Ice Rink;

Whereas, Details from the predesign may be used by MPRB to ensure that the North Commons Park Phase 1 Improvements project is designed and built to seamlessly accommodate the future construction of the Refrigerated Ice Rink; and

Whereas, This resolution is supported in Parks for All, the MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021-2036, which references the goal Goal #4, "Work from our Strengths and Determine our Role in Partnerships; and Goal #9, "Operate a Financially Sustainable Enterprise;"

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners approves a Donation Agreement between the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and New Directions Youth Ministry for the Refrigerated Ice Rink Predesign at North Commons Park; and

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RESOLVED, That the President and Secretary of the Board are authorized to take all necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.

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TO: Planning Committee

FROM: Michael Schroeder, Assistant Superintendent, Planning

DATE: 24 April 2024

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION APPROVING A DONATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD AND NEW DIRECTIONS YOUTH MINISTRY FOR THE REFRIGERATED ICE RINK PREDESIGN AT NORTH COMMONS PARK

BACKGROUND

This resolution considers a Donation Agreement between the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) and New Directions Youth Ministry related to a predesign for a new Refrigerated Ice Rink at North Commons Park (*Attachment A*).

Started in 1979, New Directions is a grassroots youth-serving non-profit organization in north Minneapolis, which works with other community organizations to help children and youth in north Minneapolis overcome the obstacles to their development presented by the inner-city environment. The goal of New Directions is the healthy and holistic development of north Minneapolis children and youth in the following areas:

1. High School Graduation
2. Employment and Self-Sufficiency
3. Emotional Stability and Mental Health
4. Ability to Make and Sustain Nourishing Relationships
5. Participation in Community Life
6. Absence of Criminal Behavior

Through New Directions' North Minneapolis Hockey and Figure Skating Program, children and youth of north Minneapolis are provided an opportunity to participate in the sports of hockey, figure skating, and recreational ice skating at all levels of ability, from beginner to advanced. The cost is low, and equipment and transportation are provided if needed. The program is based out of North Commons Park.

With a warming planet, winter ice conditions are becoming less and less predictable. One remedy to this unpredictability is the development of outdoor refrigerated ice rink facilities that use traditional indoor rink refrigeration systems and apply it to outdoor ice rinks.

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Within the Board approved North Service Area Vision Plan, the Park Plan for North Commons Park includes a new Refrigerated Ice Rink located centrally within the park. While this facility improvement is included in the Board-approved Concept Plan for the North Commons Park Phase 1 Improvements project, MPRB does not have sufficient capital funding to include this facility in the current project scope.

The Board-approved concept plan notes that this facility is "Pending Dedicated Fundraising" and that it is "Not Currently in the Project Scope." Through this Donation Agreement, New Directions will strive to fundraise to complete the predesign phase of the Refrigerated Ice Rink, which will inform all parties of the systems, facility size, site plan location, and capital and operational costs of implementing this facility.

The Donation Agreement has been reviewed by MPRB legal counsel for form and legality.

If this Board Resolution is approved through the Planning Committee, Staff requests that the action be reviewed by the full Board of Commissioners on this same date due to timing constraints.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTIONS

February 6, 2019	Resolution 2019-106: Resolution Approving the North Service Area Master Plan, as Amended to Reduce Parking in Bryn Mawr Park by 20 Percent and include Moderate Impact Amendment 21E to include 4 tennis courts and no skate park in North Commons Park.
October 4, 2023	Resolution 2023-168: Resolution approving the Renovation/Addition Concept Design for North Commons Park Phase 1 Improvements.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners approve the Donation Agreement between the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and New Directions Youth Ministry related to a predesign for a new Refrigerated Ice Rink at North Commons Park.

This action is supported by the following goals and strategies in Parks for All, the MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021-2036.

Goal:	**Strategy:**
04. Work from our strengths and determine our role in partnerships	4.5: Seek partnerships and sponsorships to support citywide volunteerism, events, projects, programs, and facilities and to increase MPRB's ability to manage, program, design, and activate parks.

09. Operate a financially sustainable enterprise	9.8: Create flexible funding and budgeting that always prioritizes core aspects of the agency and supports innovation and expansion.

Attachments:

1. Attachment A: Donation Agreement with New Directions for Refrigerated Ice Rink Predesign at North Commons Park

Jbr 4.24.2024.