Resolution 2011-221

Resolution Authorizing an Application for $1,000,000 to ArtPlace for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Park Programming and Infrastructure Improvements

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) is the steward of Minneapolis parks;

Whereas, On May 18, 2011 the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Committee (Legacy Committee), comprised of interested community members, presented a plan for programming and infrastructure improvements at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park (Park) to honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.;

Whereas, On May 18, 2011 the MPRB approved the phase I recommendations and accepted the final report of the Legacy Committee, including the establishment of the Legacy Committee as an ongoing group to help raise the necessary additional funding to the Board's goal and the committee's plan to honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's Jr.'s legacy at the Park.

Whereas, The Legacy Committee has identified ArtPlace, a collaboration of major foundations, the National Endowment for the Arts and various federal agencies, as a potential funding source for programming and infrastructure improvements at the Park; and

Whereas, The MPRB and Legacy Committee have identified a grant request of $1,000,000 for programming and infrastructure improvements for the Park;

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners authorize an application for $1,000,000 to ArtPlace for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park programming and infrastructure improvements; and

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

Adopted by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
In formal meeting assembled on November 22, 2011

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John Erwin, President

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Karen Robinson, Secretary

Approved:

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R.T. Rybak, Mayor

TO: Full Board

FROM: Bruce Chamberlain, Assistant Superintendent for Planning Services

DATE: November 22, 2011

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing an Application for $1,000,000 to ArtPlace for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Programming and Infrastructure Improvements

BACKGROUND

Starting in January 2011, a series of meetings were held with interested residents to identify how best to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park through infrastructure and program improvements. After seven meetings, the resulting Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Committee finalized its recommendations. The final report contained two phases of recommendations. The Phase I recommendations include:

- The "Wings of Freedom Memorial Sculpture" (Freedom Form #2 Sculpture) honoring Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King be moved to its original site, visible from Nicollet Avenue with landscaping and name plaque.
- Clean and restore Freedom Form #2 with a new foundation for the sculpture.
- Park signage be replaced or added throughout the park with the consistent use of the revised name of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park.
- Establishing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Legacy Advisory Committee as a permanent group to provide oversight and recommendations to the Board for the implementation of these recommendations and to help raise the necessary additional funding to the Board's goal and the committee's plan to honor Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's Legacy at the Park.

Phase II improvements included the following capital and programming recommendations:

PHASE II - Physical Infrastructure $1,669,896
That the following physical infrastructure improvements be implemented over time as funding resources become available to make the park truly reflect the Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

○ North Entry Garden	$ 13,650
○ Rosa Parks Playground (Tot Lot)	$ 112,500
○ South Entry Garden	$ 13,800
○ 40th Street Bus Stop Garden	$ 40,700
○ Memorial/Interpretive elements	$ 92,500
○ Peace Garden	$ 175,000
○ Amphitheater	$ 164,500

○ 42nd St. bus stop garden	$ 33,500
○ 42nd St. Entry Garden	$ 15,000
○ Quilt gardens	$ 148,900
○ West Building Entry	$ 50,750
○ Nicollet Green	$ 202,600
○ West Freedom Path	$ 164,500
○ Peace Fields	$ 250,196
○ Signage for the Building	$ 3,000
○ 40th Street Promenade – Overlook	$ 188,800
Total Physical Improvements Phase II	$1,669,896

PHASE II Park Programming $19,650

That the following Programs and programmatic changes be implemented as funds become available.

○ Movies in the Park	$ 500
○ ML King Youth Council	$ 250
○ Freedom Jazz Festival	$ 2,500
○ Educational Programs which stress the importance of learning about social injustice, black history, civil rights movement, leadership and life skill building and goal setting.	$ 5,000
○ Increase Youth Programs & supplies	$ 1,000
○ Peace Games	$ 5,000
○ Underground railroad Quilt making	$ 500
○ Taste of the Nation Fair	$ 2,500
○ Community Sings	$ 700
○ Willie Mays T-Ball tournament	$ 1,000
○ Girls Group – learn about the contribution of women to the Civil Right movement.	$ 200
○ Storytelling classes	$ 500
Total annual Program Costs – Phase II	$19,650

On May 18, 2011 the Board of Commissioners approved the Phase I recommendations and accepted the final plan presented by the Legacy Committee.

The Legacy Committee has been meeting since June to implement Phase I and initiate fundraising efforts for the Phase II projects. They have identified the ArtPlace grant program as a possible funding source for programming and infrastructure improvements. A letter of inquiry was submitted to ArtPlace on November 15 to meet the initial deadline of the grant. By January 2, 2012 ArtPlace will invite selected applicants to submit full proposals. If approved, the MPRB would act as the fiscal agent and project manager. Obsidian Arts will be part of the project team as a project management mentee.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board authorize an application for $1,000,000 to ArtPlace for Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Park programming and infrastructure improvements. Authorizing the application will allow the MPRB to submit additional information in January if invited by ArtPlace to submit a full proposal.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTIONS

May 18, 2011 Resolution to Approve the Phase I Recommendations for Dr. Martin Luther King Park and to Accept the Final Committee Report

Prepared by: Jennifer Ringold, Manager of Public Engagement and Citywide Planning

Reviewed by: Bruce Chamberlain, Assistant Superintendent for Planning Services

Approved by: Jayne Miller, Superintendent