

**Greenough Park Advisory Committee
Minutes**

March 7, 2011

Present: Kathleen Kennedy, John Horrell, Bill Burnett, Cyndy Braun, Barbara Stanley, Morgan Valliant.
Excused: John Pierce. Absent: Matthew Koehler. Also present: Jim Habeck and UM Ecology students:
Rob Mickey, John Steelman, Anton Gabrielson.

Minutes: John moved that the minutes be approved as drafted. All approved.

Public comment: Jim Habeck commented on the larger maples that have been cut and dropped on the east side of the park. He also noted that arborescent shrubs are not flourishing.

Discussion regarding CLAC (Conservation Lands Advisory Committee): Kathleen reported that she has spoken with two members of the Greenough family, Jane Greenough Green and Paul Greenough. Paul will serve as the spokesman for the Greenough heirs. The family wants their interests represented through GPAC or CLAC in the event that GPAC is disbanded. Paul stressed that maintaining the "natural setting" of the park is paramount. Kathleen clarified that the mayor appointed the original committee members of GPAC in 1973.

The Parks and Recreation Board made a recommendation to the City Council that disbanding of GPAC should be delayed until CLAC is in place and fully functioning. Then GPAC and the Greenough heirs can work to make sure that compliance with the 1955 court order is assured under the aegis of CLAC. Kathleen suggested that the status of GPAC can be revisited after CLAC works through one management season. Morgan reported that the Parks Board will review the CLAC bylaws on March 8. The question was brought up whether the Parks Board or the City Council would appoint members to CLAC.

A city memorandum draft dated March 7, 2011 regarding roles and responsibilities of CLAC was circulated. John questioned the first component (1) stating "provide City Park Staff and Park Board members with advice and recommendations on the implementation of the Conservation Lands Management Plan and compliance with the 1955 Greenough Park Decree." John suggested that it is the role of the city legal department to provide advice monitoring 1955 decree compliance rather than citizens.

Bill expressed concerns whether CLAC can meet the mandates of the 1955 decree and whether the interests of the Greenough heirs can be served by CLAC. John Horrell submitted a memo to the Conservation Committee for their February 9 meeting in which he summarized the concerns of GPAC members. It was questioned whether this memo was entered into the public record. GPAC members feel that it is important for our comments on the CLAC proposal to be part of the public record.

John proposed that a statement should be drawn up from GPAC expressing support for the formation of CLAC but cautioning that GPAC should not be dissolved and incorporated into CLAC without due deliberation and consideration. John will write and circulate a draft statement.

Barbara is in favor of adopting the transitional status of GPAC dependent upon the wishes of the Greenough heirs and the successful development of CLAC.

Bill brought up the issue of the park survey not having been approved. It was decided to invite Dave Strohmaier and Steve Niday to the May meeting to find out whether the survey issues were referred to the City Council.

Brochure photo selection: Morgan noted that the finalized brochure will be subject to Parks Board approval. Kathleen commented that we do not have a photo of the lower bridge or any winter scenes. She will request more photographs for consideration. Membership will send comments on the submitted photos to Kathleen.

The next meeting will be held on May 2 since several members would be unable to attend an April meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Stanley, Secretary