



Resolution 2025-77

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A RECURRING DONATION FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE WILDFLOWER GARDEN TO THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD TO SUPPORT AN INCREASE IN PROVISIONAL NATURALIST STAFF HOURS (NOVEMBER-MARCH) TO PROVIDE ENHANCED WINTER PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD FROM 2025 THROUGH 2027

Whereas, The mission of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is to permanently preserve, protect, maintain, improve, and enhance its natural resources, parkland, and recreational opportunities for current and future generations of our region including people, plants, and wildlife;

Whereas, MPRB is committed to providing environmental education program opportunities throughout the park system year around;

Whereas, The staff from the from Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary (Garden) have successfully worked with the Loppet Foundation to offer nature-based programs at the Trailhead and in Theodore Wirth Regional Park in the winter months since 2023;

Whereas, Additional staff support for leading these successful programs will benefit the public by allowing for additional programs and new programming opportunities to be developed;

Whereas, A private donor has offered to gift an amount of up to \$9,500.00 per year for three years to support the employment of provisional naturalist staff at the Garden in the winter months, thus permitting Garden naturalist staff to contribute to high-quality nature education programming year-round;

Whereas, The private donor will donate these funds to the Friends of the Wildflower Garden (Friends), a 501(c)3 established in 1952 to support the Garden;

Whereas, A Letter of Commitment regarding this donation has been submitted by the Friends on April 8, 2025, delineating the commitment from the Friends on behalf of the private donor; and

Whereas, The Letter of Commitment is supported by Goal 4 to "Work from our strengths and determine our role in partnership" of the Parks for All MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021 - 2036;

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners accept the recurring donation from the Friends of the Wildflower Garden to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to support an increase in provisional Naturalist staff hours (November-March) to provide enhanced winter



programming opportunities for a three-year period from 2025 through 2027; and

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