

Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission

Funding Report

General Section

Park or Trail Name: Robert Ney Park

Park ID: 14-011D Funding Application #: 15-008F

Date Designated: 2015-10-07 District4

Lead Organization: Wright County

First Name: Brad Last Name: Harrington

Mailing Address: 1901 Highway 25 North

City: Buffalo State: MN Zip: 55313

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Project Name: Outdoor Recreation/ Environmental Programming Specialist

Project Description:

The proposed project is to connect people to the outdoors with the establishment of a 2 year contracted position through a partnership between Wright and Stearns County. This position will be an Outdoor Recreation / Environmental Programming Specialist that will key in on one of the four strategic directions that are framed in the Parks and Trails Legacy Plan, Connecting People to the Outdoors. With this position the counties of Wright and Stearns hope to fulfill a much needed void in Greater Minnesota today by engaging people of all age groups and backgrounds in outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship. We believe that this will help to not only protect and preserve Minnesota's natural resources, but also enhance and develop more opportunities for future generations of Minnesotans. It is our goal to construct fun and exciting outdoor experiences for people from all walks of life through programs that encourage participants to enjoy, appreciate and educate themselves on Minnesota's natural surroundings. This will be achieved by crafting programs, activities, and partnerships that will leave program participants with a positive lasting impression. The proposed position is titled Outdoor Recreation/ Environmental Program Specialist. The person hired for this position will plan, organize, and direct a variety of outdoor recreational activities and environmental programs at Robert Ney Regional Park Reserve, Quarry Park and Nature Preserve, and other parks located within the Wright and Stearns County Parks Systems. This position will office at 2 locations, in Maple Lake at the Robert Ney Regional Park Reserve and in Waite Park at Quarry Park and Nature Preserve. The hired applicant will coordinate programs throughout the Wright and Stearns County Park Systems with specific attention given to Robert Ney Regional Park Reserve, Quarry Park and Nature Preserve and other Regionally Designated parks and trails within each park system. The successful candidate must be able to plan, organize and direct a minimum of 30 programs over 22 months (15 for each county) that relate to outdoor recreation and environmental education programs. Some of these activities may include but are not limited to canoeing, kayaking, outdoor living skills, team building, birding adventures, snowshoeing, cross-county skiing, dog sledding, fun fungus activities and

many more. This position will work with a wide variety of audiences, including children and adults from diverse backgrounds. Prior experience in paddle sports, experiential education, environmental education, and adventure recreation is preferred. Professional certifications through American Canoe Association, Wilderness Advanced First Aid, and Leave No Trace are a plus. The position requires a Bachelor's degree in Park and Recreation Administration, Health and Physical Education, or a related field and a valid MN Driver's License or the ability to obtain within 60 days of hire.

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Project Cost Breakdown: 1. Funding for a full time position at \$45,000 per year for 2 years: \$90,000 2. Marketing of programs and position @ \$10,000 per year for 2 years: \$20,000 3. Program and Operational Supplies @ \$22,500 per year for 2 years: \$45,000 4. Training and Travel @ \$15,000 per year for 2 years: \$30,000 5. Miscellaneous Expense @ \$7,500 per year for 2 years: \$15,000 2 year
Total: \$200,000

Grant Funding Request: \$200,000

Local Match: 0 Funder:
Local Match: 0 Funder:
Local Match: 0 Funder:
Local Match: 0 Funder:
Local Match: 0 Funder:

Total Funding: 200000 Percentage of Local Match: 0%

Completion Timeframe: Dependent on Grant Award (Expected Fall 2018)