

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ABBREVIATED MINUTES  
August 14, 2014  
4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Present:**

Deke Tidwell  
Rob Erickson  
Anna Noson  
Ethel MacDonald  
Gerhard Knudsen  
Dan Spencer

Jenny Tollfeson  
Bert Lindler  
Kevin Verlanic, Park Board Rep  
Tim Aldrich  
Gabe Millar  
Matt Barnes

**Absent:**

Also Present: Morgan Valliant, Conservation Lands Manager; Elizabeth Erickson, Open Space Manager; Tom Platt, Hybrid Energy Group

Minutes of July 2014: moved to approve minutes. Minutes were approved.

The committee visited a parcel of land along the Clark Fork River near Mullan Road. The land is owned by the family that leases land to the City for the poplar plantation adjacent to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The family is considering relocating a boundary line of one of their parcels to create a new parcel that can be sold as a separate parcel. The new parcel will potentially be approximately 61 acres, and contain low lying riparian land, most of which is located on an island within the Clark Fork River. The parcel will also contain old bridge abutments that are located in the river and were part of the historic Milwaukee Railroad corridor.

The committee accessed the island from an existing old railway bridge to the south of the river, and spent the field trip walking around across the island to view the bridge abutments and the rapidly-growing poplar trees on the opposite shore of the river, and then walking the length of the island to where the land intersects with the city-owned Tower Street Conservation Area.

The committee shared feedback and excitement about this parcel, including the benefits of protecting the riparian habitat and also securing another section of the Milwaukee corridor. The committee discussed completing a rough cut evaluation of the parcel at its next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00.