

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 3, 2021, 2021

Call to Order

Doris called meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Travis Coggin	<i>present</i>	Bridget Martinez	<i>present</i>
Nora Hahn	<i>present</i>	Doris Michalak	<i>present</i>
Ashley Brown	<i>present</i>	Charlie Mattair	<i>present</i>
David Locke	<i>present</i>	Sierra Brown Youth ComMbr	<i>present</i>

Also Present:

James Singleton	<i>present</i>	Josh Rodrigue	<i>present</i>
Robert Basford	<i>present</i>	Maria Thorne	<i>present</i>

Approval of Minutes from 1-6-21

Correction was made to minutes as requested by Nora Hahn. Motion made to approve minutes by Ashley. Motion to approve minutes seconded by Nora.

Citizen Comments

Susan Edwards of 16001 Jersey Dr. expressed surprise about the small number of persons who stated that they were using the pool according to the surveys in the Master Plan. Susan does not want the city spending money on consultants and plans and large buildings, and feels that if people wanted all of the amenities that they would move to locations that offered them. Susan also expressed concern that people outside of Jersey Village had possibly filled out surveys and she added a thank-you for the diving board.

Scott Schubring from 15815 Tenbury brought up the topic of amenities for older kids such as a skate park and a rock wall. He stated that some kids are past the age of using the playgrounds or splash pad and there needs to be something for them. Also talked about the survey. Likes the bridge across the bypass to Cook Middle School. Scott thinks that there needs to be something for people at the apartments to do.

Bob Kubala from 16001 Lakeview wants to know where to find the detail about the amenities that are going to be available. Wants to know who the amenities are going to be available to. Expressed concern about transients, minors, wants to know about the rules, how it is going to be controlled. Wants to know if residents are going to have to pay for security and cleanup. Josh will provide a paper copy to Mr. Kubala and explained that the details would be worked out with actual planning.

Mark Malloy from 7803 Hamilton Circle stated that the Parks Review committee from 2009 looked at plans for parks and amenities, and did not pay \$70,000 for a consulting group to draw up a plan. He stated that it seems to him that the city hires consulting firms for every project that they want to do and that he is not for that. He also mentioned the TXDOT Gold Ribbon Reforestation project.

Karie Lawrence from Achgill St. wants to know what is going on with the building at the golf course and feels it should be addressed before thinking about a new building. Feels that the building at the golf course could provide the necessary amenities without the need for another building. Also asked if the Comprehensive Planning Committee is working with Parks and Rec. Talked about upcoming election as an opportunity to get better survey results.

Cathy Huebner from 15806 Acapulco talked about the pool but feels that it is not being addressed sufficiently. Restrooms need to be renovated. Wants the smell at the pool to be addressed. Also would like to see sun shades on the long sided of both of the pools, protection for lifeguards. Cathy asked the committee to consider the pool.

Sierra Brown from 15602 Lakeview spoke on behalf of her brother and his friends. The teenagers would like the basketball courts fixed, and would like to have multiuse fields. It was explained that basketball goals were taken down due to problems from outsiders. Retractable goals were brought up and security cameras and lights were also discussed.

Items for individual consideration

- a. Burditt Consultants PMP Presentation: Paul Howard gave a presentation to the committee members and residents.

Doris asked committee members if there were questions or comments. David talked about the high cost of the projects. He said that he doesn't think that there are that many people to justify basketball courts. He also does not want Jersey Village to provide amenities on the west side of Jones Road, and he stated that the plan is too elaborate. He says that Jersey Village is a quiet neighborhood and doesn't want it to change.

Doris added that Paul did the job that was asked of him as a consultant. She pointed out that the issues that are being brought up and the decisions to be made are the job of the committee, not the consultant.

Ashley expressed criticism about the way that the surveys were conducted and stated that she has not heard from anyone at the dog park asking for trails or benches.

Bob Kubala commented that he would like to see a new survey done. Josh stated that the survey was publicized in several ways.

Doris added that she shares the concern about the survey. She also brought up questions about the property near Senate and Kube. It was confirmed that the area in question is owned by the City.

- b. Discussion and Recommendation of Parks Master Plan presentation and Document to City Council: Robert Basford, Doris Michalak

Josh stated that this point is where the committee members can discuss additional surveys, start making recommendations, etc. Robert stated that the purpose of this

agenda item was to gather the committee's input on the document itself and gather last minute removals or changes and to determine whether or not they would recommend it to Council.

Doris feels that the committee is not ready to recommend the plan to Council as something to be fully implemented as is. She stated that the committee needs to prioritize and discuss the individual items and make decisions on each one and then present whatever parts of the plan they would like to see implemented over a period of time.

Robert explained that Burditt was tasked with the creation of this Master Plan as a guide. It then is up to the committee to alter the plan and present to Council. Josh added that any additional surveys, town hall meetings, or decision making would no longer involve working with Burditt, as the contract will end.

James talked about the value of everyone's time and stated that he would prefer not to push the presentation to Council off to multiple meetings if they don't have to. He further explained that that the plan was developed by a consultant and that the committee does not have to own the plan or recommend it if they do not agree with it. Council does not have to adopt the plan - they can just receive it and consider it for later option. Doris made a comment about simply presenting it to Council as just a plan that Burditt created. Robert added that it can be submitted as neutral presentation.

David brought up a past incident where there was a proposal to rename the golf course and that a decision was being requested members so that it could be presented to Council. From that he feels that whenever something is being sent to council that, it is being committed to be implemented.

Doris mentioned the high cost of the surveys but that sometimes it's the way to get new ideas and that she does like some of the ideas in the plan.

Bridget stated that she does like some of the ideas, but stated that if something is being built at the golf course, she doesn't feel there is a need for two structures.

Also commented that she wants the surveys to be only from people who live in the community. Doris explained that the golf course club house is in the Comprehensive Plan and that what is being discussed is the Parks Master Plan.

Ashley asked why it has to be presented to Council this month.

Nora likes some of the ideas but stated that committee members now need to go amongst the community and ask what the residents want and make recommendations from there.

Charlie commented that something needs to be done now, not 10 years from now and that the current city hall location is a perfect place for activities, such as food trucks.

Sierra commented that she agrees with the things that Charlie said

Travis said thanks to Paul for the presentation and that there are parts of the plan that he likes and parts of it that he does not like. He is OK with sending it in with no recommendation and with comments.

Committee members voted to send the plan to Council as "no recommendation but with comments". The following comments were listed:

1. Committee appreciates how much lighting is in the plan.
2. Would like to Include the pool updating, adding shades, addressing the smell, and improving the bathrooms

3. Multipurpose playing fields
4. Dog park improvements
5. Carol Fox Park

Not recommending because there are things on the plan that need further discussion, cost of some of the projects, and they want more input from residents.

Robert stated that Paul will make the same presentation to Council. James added that Doris can present the comments to City Council.

Staff briefings

Recreation

Josh talked about the virtual bingo event that took place, the Valentines in a box program where residents can support local businesses including a meal from Little Kitchen, a cake from Heaven's cake and an activity. Also talked about the adult kickball league starting in March. Maybe will have 6 teams. Mentioned the toddler nature class through the parks and that the painting classes are coming back – first Friday of every month for \$30. Will discuss the Easter egg hunt next month. Working on the new Play Guide which will go out to residents the last week of February. Doris added positive comments about the Valentines boxes and about the marquees.

Parks

Robert talked about the SharePoint project and that we are working to determine how we will utilize the tool as a department. Talked about receiving bids for the golf course berm project. Brought up that there was money put in the budget for a new play structure at Clark Henry Park and will gather feedback at next meeting. Preparing to finalize the Parks Master Plan that was started last year. Commented that Burditt did a great job on the plan. Covid delayed the presentation. Doris asked about SharePoint and Robert gave a brief explanation. Robert mentioned that the savings on re-decking and re-surfacing at the pool may allow for remodeling of the bathrooms.

Future agenda Item request

Prioritize projects

Next Meeting date

March 3rd

Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn meeting by David. Motion seconded by Charlie.