

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 4, 2020

Call to Order

Doris called meeting to order at 5:41 pm

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve minutes by Ashley

Motion to approve minutes seconded by David Locke

Citizen Comments

No citizens' comments

Items for individual consideration

a. Pool amenity discussion Robert – Talked about replacing the diving board with a three-panel rock wall, and also considering adding lily pads, a zip line or other amenities based on responses from surveys. Questions were asked about the cost for amenities and Robert stated that the plan is to use the budget that was originally planned for the diving board replacement. Details about the particular amenities were discussed, including installation, anchoring, piers, location, function, possible hazards, and sanitizing. Questions were asked about age or height requirements to use the amenities and Josh stated that they were ability driven. Question was asked if kids were tested on abilities. Robert talked about possibly charging a fee to test more swimmers in order to pay for a lifeguard to do the testing. The subject came up about raising prices with the addition of more amenities. Amenities for younger kids will be researched and all ideas will be put forth on surveys for residents to vote on. A statement was made that we have a sufficient number of life jackets. Plans to re-pipe the waterline for the slide to recirculate water from the pool during the re-decking project were also mentioned. Questions were brought up about the timeline and it was mentioned that a goal is to have all projects completed by March 31st, before the pool opens.

Doris asked committee members to express their opinion about the amenities. David commented that he thinks it sounds fine but that it needs to be put out there so that the neighborhood knows what's coming so that it is not a surprise. Can be communicated in JV Star, back of Mayor's newsletter, surveys. Nora stated that she had no other comments as she had asked all her questions earlier. Charlie expressed concerns over having a 5 year old climbing a rock wall and asked about the cost of the diving board and insurance. Josh stated that the diving board cost was about 30k, that the rock wall would cost less in insurance and that the posted rules would be updated. Ashley stated that she likes the separated rock walls and the lily pads. It was stated that the pool wall would be measured to see how much space was available. Doris stated that she likes the lily pads, and that she likes both the 2-panel and 3-panel rock wall configurations that were presented. Bridgette stated that she was worried about somebody getting hurt on the rock wall and that she would like more information about the material that it is made of. Robert talked about possibly adding a housing on the backside to keep people from bumping into it or stubbing toe and also mentioned weather related action plans.

b. Farmers Market location discussion Joshua Rodrigue – The community was interested in moving the market away from City Hall so the subject is being opened up for more formal discussion. Farmers market was held at Clark Henry park three weeks ago and there are pros and cons to that location. The pros are that the park is very nice, the splash pad and pool are accessible for part of the year, making it ideal for an all-day outing. The cons are the weather, that there is only one way to make it accessible to wheelchairs – would need to place vendors along the trail, or could use parking lot but that would reduce parking spaces and there would be no shade. There is the expectation that the farmers market will be moved to the new city hall and it would not be good to move the market twice. The market is growing and we want to attract good vendors. Other possible locations such as the by the pond or Carol Fox park present some problems with lack of rest room facilities and parking space.

Doris prompted members to express thoughts on the subject. David talked about designating parking areas for handicapped persons at Clark Henry Park by the pool, possibly use the dead-end street. Josh mentioned that people in wheelchairs would be unable to access the vendors that are set up in the grass. The use of mats was brought up but there are too many cons about that. Robert talked about possibly turning the current city hall into a park and using it as a possible future place for the farmer's market and food trucks. Also mentioned that the E-200 plan to connect the trail to our hike and bike trail may bring in people from other neighborhoods. Nora likes the idea of keeping the farmer's market at the current City Hall location because of the proximity but possibly moving it to the park in the summer. Charlie commented that the current location is good and that people are easily able to walk to it. Ashley liked having the market at Clark Henry and also the idea of turning the current city hall location into a park but does not like the idea of moving it to the new city hall location. Brought up comments from Nextdoor about crowding. Doris liked the broader space at Clark Henry Park and the idea of setting vendor booths up along the trail, also likes the idea of turning the current city hall location into a park and using it for the farmer's market. Thinks that keeping the market at current location is a better option than across the highway. Josh wants to try to fix the issues at the current location before deciding to relocate. He invited committee members to attend the upcoming markets so that they can give their thoughts and also mentioned asking opinions of people at the market.

- c. Dog show event idea and discussion Ashley Brown and Nora Hahn. It was suggested that it would be fun to have a dog show to bring dog owners together from the community. Maybe could have it at one of the parks or at the dog park. Could have costume or agility contests, a dog parade around the pond, get sponsorships from vets, groomers, and pet food companies, pet stores. Have vets set up to administer vaccines or health checks. Maybe bring in some local celebrity dogs that have won contests. Designate a play area for Frisbees. Would need to consider the weather. Ashley brought up pairing it with doggie dip day. Josh mentioned that the spring time is very busy. Robert brought up Covid considerations, suggested thinking about having it during the cooler months, and planning for a longer event. Josh suggested that Ashley and Nora could do the planning and that he would take care of the marketing, advertising, ordering of awards, etc. Nora said that she would check with a friend that is a breeder about getting more ideas.

Staff briefings

Recreation

Josh said that pickle ball started last week and there were 18 people who came out to play this week. Games are on Tuesdays from 9 to 11am and Wednesdays from 3 to 5 pm. Food trucks to continue over next 3 Fridays. Movies went well, thanks to Charlie and Doris for coming to help. Farmers market is going well. Friday is Texas Arbor day and will give away native loblolly pines and water oaks. We got 30 of the 50 trees sponsored and only spent about \$200 on trees. Will be at city hall from 4-6 pm for tree give-away. May have a second day to give away or may send them to golf course tree nursery. Rest of November is pickle ball and Farmer's markets. December will have Holiday in the Village but modified due to Covid. Will not have snow, no pictures with Santa on his lap. Backdrop for photos, candy cane hunt, and other activities. Decoration contest was announced today. Dec 16 & 17 will be judging and will announce winners on the 18th. Will be collecting donations of items for active service members from Nov 16 to Dec 16. Will start looking into January's events.

Parks -

Robert mentioned that the shade structure over the splash pad will be going in this week. Talked about the Parks Master Plan open house presentation by Burditt on Tuesday next week. Asked members to attend to be advocates for the plan and to give constructive criticism and feedback. There will be about six tables set up with poster boards with the different amenities featured on them. Residents will have an opportunity to vote on what they would like. It will be on a come and go basis –not a scheduled presentation. City Council will decide which projects to proceed with. Robert said that the questionnaires were sent out for the parks supervisor position. Doris asked if there were updates on the gateway signs. Robert said that we waiting for meters. Discussed the requirements about sign location to eliminate danger if signs get hit. The sign programming is now on the cloud based updating system. Can be edited remotely instead of having to go to each sign and just working on the formatting now. Talking about the ability to have different messages on different signs.

Future agenda Item request

None

David asked if something was going on with trees. Josh talked about Tree City USA. Robert stated that we meet the requirements to be recognized as a Tree City USA because of the effort and care that we put into our trees. Josh mentioned the need for a tree board - it could be the same members. A question was asked about a connection to the Astros for patronage. The Babe Ruth Program was also brought up. It was discussed that there are no facilities for baseball.

Next Meeting date

Dec 2nd, 2020

Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Bridget

Motion seconded by Ashley