



MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: Monthly PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE: February 10, 2021

AND LOCATION: Due to COVID19, meeting was held via Zoom

ATTENDEES: City Staff:
Assistant City Administrator, Kevin Iffland
PRC Board Members:
Thom MacLean, Maia Dickerson, Lew Morris, Jami Clark,
Chuck Platt, Tom Rupsis, Thelma Armstrong, Mark Wahl
PRPL Staff Members:
Mike Whitaker, Director
Mike Pigg, Park Superintendent
Kory Thomson, Recreation Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner
Paul Reinhardt, Community Outreach Specialist

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Rupsis called the meeting to order at 11:04 AM

A. INTRODUCTIONS

City Council: Mike Boyett
Public Works Director: Debi Mehling

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions to the agenda

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Rupsis asked for a motion on the January 13, 2021 minutes. Board member Thom MacLean moved to approve the minutes. Board member Lew Morris seconded. On a raised hand vote, the motion passed.

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Michael Whitaker

Director Michael Whitaker said the vacant Parks Board position is currently being advertised and there are two applications so far. Position closes February 27.

III. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENT

Chairman Rupsis opened the floor for public comment.
There were no comments at the time, and the floor was closed.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Parks and Recreation Annual Report:

The Parks and Recreation staff gave a review of the department's annual report for 2020.

Mr. Whitaker opened the floor to the board for comments or questions.

Board member Thelma Armstrong commented the report was a great document. She asked what the response rate was to our survey (Comp Plan 2017). Mr. Whitaker said the information for the survey was done in 2017; the results were considered better than average compared to other communities across the country.

Board member Lew Morris asked about the Centennial Park restroom. Mr. Whitaker said staff has met with the supplier and the supplier indicated he will have all the information to the Building Department by the 19 of February.

Board member Mia Dickerson asked about any updates to the 2017 Comp Plan. Mr. Whitaker said the plan should be updated in the near future and at the time, we will do another statistically valid survey.

Ms. Dickerson asked if the Comp Plan is the only survey done since 2017. Mr. Whitaker said we have done other surveys for various projects such as master plans.

Ms. Dickerson asked why the costs on the North Park project were down. Park Supervisor Mike Pigg said the main savings was an estimate error.

Ms. Dickerson asked if any additional parks could be on efficiency irrigation. Mr. Pigg said yes, the cost to change out irrigation pump stations is around \$60,000-70,000 a station.

Board member Jamie Clark asked what happens to any funds remaining on a project that are not used. Mr. Whitaker said they go back into the account they are taken from.

Board member Thom MacLean asked if the department had any plan in place to use our own information or data. Mr. Pigg said we are in the processes of implementing CityWorks, which we will help with recording important data for the department.

Chairman Rupsis asked why there is a difference in cost with to various parks playground development. Mr. Whitaker said a lot of it depends on whether it is for a neighborhood park or community park.

Mr. Rupsis opened the floor to the public for comments and questions.

Kristy Savaria from the community asked when a shelter would be constructed at High Sierra. Board member Jamie Clark said there are funds allocated for the purchase of a shelter there but there is currently not enough funds at this time for installation.

B. West End Reservoir Project:

Public Works Director Debi Mehling presented the west end reservoir project to the board.

Board chair Rupsis opened the floor for questions and comments.

Board member Armstrong asked how the reservoir would be maintenance once it is built. Ms. Mehling said there has been discussion but it is very preliminary at this point. There has been some talk with the Parks Department on how a partnership would look on funding maintenance.

Board member Chuck Platt asked about a section of property approximately 48th street. Ms. Mehling said that the owner of that section of property is not willing to sell at this time.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Parks and Trail Ballot Issue:

Board chair Rupsis continued his discussion on the parks and trail ballot issue from the previous board meetings.

Board member Jamie Clark asked if the cost estimate on the project backlog is one hundred percent completion with one percent amenities. Mr. Rupsis said yes. Ms. Clark asked if there was an actual Friends of Cottonwood Park group. Mr. Rupsis said yes.

Board member Armstrong asked what the best staffing practices are regarding prioritizing projects. Mr. Whitaker said capacity to work on projects and the policy body, which is City Administration and City Council to decide what projects to work on.

Board member Morris commented he would like the community to come together to build something at Amend Park. Assistant City Administrator Kevin Iffland said the city is currently in conversations regarding that situation.

Board member Clark wanted to know a more accurate number spent on annual maintenance costs for our area. Mr. Whitaker said we would need to come up with a number.

Board member MacLean asked if the cost of maintenance per acre was high. Mr. Pigg said he got that number from the NRPA (National Recreation Parks Association) and that is a national number. It is strictly a maintenance cost.

Board member Armstrong felt it was a critical part in helping the Parks and Recreation Department and this community to have in the presentation the discussion on the development of the recreation center.

Chairman Rupsis opened the floor to public comments.

Community member Pam Ellis asked what the status was of the contract with Public Lands & Trust and it was her understanding that they were charged with evaluating the needs and funding options, conducting a statistically valid survey, and making a presentation to the city council. Chairman Rupsis said it was not a contract but a letter, it did not include a survey but as an additional piece possibly later and they will be going before Council.

VIII. AJOURNMENT – There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned at 1:06 PM

(Please note these are summary minutes)