



Regular Meeting of the Park Commission  
City of University City  
January 24, 2012  
Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Blvd.

President John Sweeney called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Other members present were:  
Karen Dille  
William Field  
Karen Palmer  
Linda Peoples  
Caryn St. Clair  
Andrea Riganti, Director of Community Development  
Lynda Euell-Taylor, Deputy Director of Recreation  
Lynn Ricci, Council Liaison

Excused Absence: Gwendolyn Gaines-Beckwith

Ms. Riganti introduced Mr. Richard Wilson, new Director of Public Works/Parks to commission members.

**Greenway South Proposed Improvements**

Cheryl Adelstein and Sarah Stanton of Washington University presented an overview of this project. At this time, the proposed improvements to Greenway South are conceptual, but include improvements to landscaping and lighting and widening of the pedestrian and bicycle path. Washington University is seeking endorsement of the concept from Parks Commission. Mr. Field moved approval, Ms. Dille seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

**Disposition of Minutes from November 22, 2011**

Ms. Dille moved approval, Ms. Peoples seconded. Vote taken: all approved.

**Election of Officers**

Mr. Sweeney nominated Ms. St. Clair as President. Ms. Dille seconded. Vote taken: five approved (Ms. Dille, Mr. Field, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Peoples, Mr. Sweeney) and one abstention (Ms. St. Clair). Nomination passed.

Mr. Sweeney nominated Ms. Palmer to remain as Vice President. Ms. Peoples seconded. Vote taken: all approved. Nomination passed.

Mr. Sweeney indicated with two new commission members being appointed, nominations for the office of Secretary should be delayed until the new appointments.

**Citizen's comments on items not on Agenda**

- Ms. Charlene Willis, 1570 Mendell read a letter requesting the commission implement senior citizen rates for the Heman Park Community Center.

**Department Report**

Ms. Riganti introduced landscaping architectural specialist, Austin Tao who presented to commission members as informational only, two proposed landscape options for Ruth Park Golf Course Driving Range.

Ms. Riganti reported on the following:

- Department Budget – no substantial changes; there are cost savings due to the reorganization.
- Fees – would like to see implemented special appeal/hardship policy, fees would be presented to Council for waiver.  
Regarding request by Ms. Willis – Park Commission agrees staff should adhere to current fee structure; letter to be drafted by staff and sent to Ms. Willis denying her request.

Ms. Riganti presented to commission members a Community Development organizational chart, which included newly acquired Recreation Division staff members.

Mr. Sweeney allowed a citizen comment from Mr. Ed Mass, 8360 Cornell, who expressed his concerns regarding the landscape architectural concepts present this evening by Austin Tao.

Ms. St. Clair expressed her concern regarding the replacement of signage at Ackert Walkway. Mr. Wilson indicated the signage would be re-installed.

**Council Liaison Report**

Ms. Ricci reported the following:

- Budget process has begun; public budget hearing will be held Wednesday, January 25 at the McNair Building, beginning at 6:00 pm.
- Council has received final report from recent audit; many concerns addressed by Councilmember Ricci in the past were indicated.
- Consultant has been hired to review Finance Department practices and procedures.

**Individual Park Reports**

William Field – Ruth Park Golf Course: looks terrific; Metcalfe/Ackert Parks: no changes

Karen Dille – Millar/Rabe Parks – both look good; Heman Park – expressed concern regarding leak in Heman Pool

Karen Palmer – Mooney Park – looks good; getting good use

Park Commission Minutes – 12412, pg. 3

Linda Peoples – Greensfelder and Fogerty Parks – both look fine; raised question regarding additional discussion regarding renovation of Fogerty tennis courts to basketball courts.

John Sweeney – Adams Park – looks great; Flynn Park – still a mess. Mr. Wilson indicated the delay is due to an issue between MSD and University City; will provide an update at February Park Commission meeting. Lewis Park – Mr. Wilson indicated the pond has been drained due to broken pipe and will be repaired soon.

**Unfinished Business** – Ms. Palmer raised a question regarding ADA compliance assessment of recreational facilities.

**New Business**

Consideration of a Park Planning Grant

Mr. Wilson gave an overview of park planning grant. Ms. Palmer moved approval of the submission of park planning grant based on recommendation by park maintenance superintendent. Ms. Dille seconded. Vote taken: five approved (Ms. Dille, Mr. Field, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Peoples, Mr. Sweeney) and one abstention (Ms. St. Clair). Motion passed.

**Old Business**

Mr. Sweeney recommended fee waiver for special event request be held prior to March meeting.

Ms. Dille moved to adjourn. Ms. Palmer second. All in favor. The meeting ended at 8:25 pm.