



**Regular Meeting of the Parks Commission  
City of University City  
May 21, 2013  
City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 6801 Delmar**

Vice President, Mr. Steve Goldstein called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Members present were:

William Field  
Steve Goldstein  
Linda Peoples  
Ed Mass  
Kathleen Standley  
Alberta Garth – *arrived late*

Rich Wilson, Director of Public Works and Parks  
Lynda Euell-Taylor, Deputy Director of Recreation  
Sandy Bradford, Executive Secretary  
Stephen Kraft, Council Liaison – *arrived 6:38 pm*

Excused Absence: Kim Jones

Others present were:

Jerry Bruce – 6672 Washington  
Noel T. Fehr – 727 North First St.  
Arnold Hermelin – 8424 Old Bonhomme

Jack Lipin – 1340 Partridge Ave.  
Thomas Miller – 7221 Shaftesbury  
Kevin Taylor – 7022 Canton Ave.

**Deposition of Minutes from April 23, 2013**

Ms. Peoples moved to approve the minutes of April 23, 2013. Mr. Goldstein seconded, vote taken – all approved.

Mr. Wilson requested to make an amendment to the agenda by moving #9a. Millar Park Preliminary Plans to #5a to keep all presentations together. Ms. Peoples moved to amend the agenda as stated, Ms. Standley seconded, vote taken – all approved.

**Citizens' Comments not on the Agenda**

Arnold Hermelin discussed golf balls breaching the fence at 6<sup>th</sup> green hitting the street and bouncing in different directions striking vehicles, breaking windows, landing on roofs and possibly hitting pedestrians. His vehicle has personally been pelted by golf balls producing many dents (pictures were provided to show the damage to his vehicle and the amount of traffic on his street which raises the possibility of what can happen if balls hit these cars or pedestrians). Mr. Hermelin is proposing a possible three part solution to this problem, i.e., plant trees where they were removed to help mitigate the problem, raise the fence 20-25 feet or to move the 6<sup>th</sup> green. Mr. Mass would like to set a meeting in the future with himself, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Winker, Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Castellari to discuss possible solutions. Mr. Mass wants to put a video camera in Mr. Hermelin's window to monitor how high the golf balls are going to see if a higher fence would be one of the solutions.

**Gateway Cup Bike Race – Jerry Bruce Presentation**

Mr. Bruce stated in the past this race was typically a mid-week race, the thought with that was people were coming from the West Coast out to the East Coast and along their way, stopping in St. Louis to race. This was hard for people that live/work here to come to the early portions of the race. The proposal for this year is to move the race to the weekend which would be more compelling for the racers, for the spectators and ultimately for some emergency areas as well. The costa are fixed to send a team or an individual to race, so if they can ply their trade multiple days vs. just one day chances are teams will come here to race. On the merchants side of things the people that want to partner or sponsor the race they have a captive audience for more than just one day. Chances are people will travel in for the weekend and possibly come into St. Louis on a Wednesday or Thursday (as it's cheaper to travel during the week vs. the weekend) and stay until a Monday or a Tuesday.

It would be compelling to the community because it's a free event to the general public and people can come and mix with the pros and amateurs. Mr. Bruce made a commitment to restore fields as they were prior to the race being there. The race is October 26-27 but may need park on October 25 to set-up and a half day on October 28 to tear down. In the past the City has used their manpower to clean up after events which incurred costs to the City. Mr. Wilson stated for future events the City is debating on requiring a cash bond be put into place to cover clean-up cost if necessary. The City is looking to revamp the Special Events Policy, however, several events are grandfathered in and would require us to go back to them and consider charging them the bond cost or explaining that this will be the new policy and would they still consider wanting to use our facilities if the policy changes in the future.

### **UCPF Request for Pillars at Heman Park – Thomas Miller Presentation**

Mr. Miller stated University City Park Foundation is a non-profit organization founded 2005. Their mission is to strengthen the connection between the residents and their parks by raising private funds to promote, improve and preserve University City Parks. Mr. Miller wants to propose to have two lighted pillars installed at the Shaftesbury entrance at Heman Park at Midland. Some pros in having the pillars installed would be to enhance the experience of the park goers. Help identify one of the main entrances to the park and it will be a benefit to the park because it is becoming more heavily used. The pillars are consistent with what is already in existence. The Park Foundation will fund the project. They would like to develop fund raisers and do a marketing campaign to help engage the residents and business community to help defray some of the costs. Project coordination is needed, they will work with Public Works and Parks to do whatever is necessary to see the project through. Mr. Goldstein inquired about the design plan on whether it is consistent with previous design standards. Ms. Peoples inquired about considering the neighbors opinions to adding these pillars, Mr. Miller stated they will be communicating through signage and email blasts but are open to recommendations about how to make sure the neighbors are okay with this project. Mr. Wilson stated the City is responsible for the maintenance of the pillars. Mr. Miller is asking for approval from this commission and needs to get Councils approval as well to install these pillars. Mr. Mass stated he wants the issue of energy efficient lighting be discussed further. Most of the lighting he has seen projects the light up to the sky without no avail to any useful purpose other than wasting energy. He would like to know if the pillar lighting will have a cap that is solid and reflective of the light that bounces back out and toward the ground or open to shine up into the night sky and how energy efficient will they be. Mr. Goldstein moved that the request for pillars at Heman Park presented by UCPF receive affirmative approval by this commission, Ms. Peoples seconded – vote taken, all approved. Mr. Mass moved to amend the motion that the Commission approve the concept but would like to reserve approval of a final design until some previous issues stated are addressed, Mr. Field seconded – vote taken, all approved.

### **Millar Park Preliminary Plans – Noel T. Fehr, Planning Design Studio**

Planning Design Studio (PSD) was involved with the Millar Park Master Plan and for the core area of that they helped prepare a St. Louis County Municipal Park Grant. The Grant was approved last fall, the design has been started and the first part of that project is three (3) elements the picnic shelter, comfort station and the parking lot. Other things that need to go into the core area in the future are playground, additional site furnishings, lighting, etc. PDS performed a detailed surveyed on where the existing trees are at and one element they are trying to work at is to save the existing trees and work around them. The parking will have new concrete aprons along the street and the base bid would be an asphalt parking lot with 27 stalls marked in it. As an alternative they are trying to use permeable pavement pavers or possibility asphalt.

## **Department Reports:**

### **Public Works and Parks Updates**

Mr. Wilson reported:

- Mowing is behind schedule but catching up soon.

- Pool is full and has been painted.
- Two water leaks at the Golf Course are fixed.
- Budget is tentative to be approved May 28.
- Bike lanes on Old Bonhomme, Canton and Jackson will all be painted and striped
- \$20,000 in budget for design of Driving Range and to settle the issue.
- Has match dollars in the unfunded budget for Landwater Grant.
- Starting Lewis Park Master Design sometime in June. Once complete PW will submit for a Muny Grant. \$100,000 for local match is in the sun funded budget.
- Adding another \$30,000 into tree trimming.
- \$25,000 in unfunded for bike facilities.

### **Community Development/Recreation Division**

Ms. Euell-Taylor reported:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Kids to Park Day was held in Millar Park on Saturday, May 18. Over 50 families participated. Free bike helmets provided by St. Louis County were distributed by the Recreation Division. University City Jazz Band, as well as a variety of entertainment performed.
- New signage designating Centennial Commons as the location for Ochs Senior Center has been installed
- Heman Park Swimming Pool will begin its 2013 season on Saturday, May 25.
- Progress on the family changing room is coming along.
- Heman Pool will turn 80 years old on May 30. An 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration is planned with balloons, giveaways and refreshments.
- Ms. Taylor will share concerns regarding sufficient provisions for separating construction debris from pool traffic with City's facilities maintenance staff.
- Safety of personal items was discussed.

### **Council Liaison Report**

Council is pretty close to approving the budget.

### **Individual Park Report**

Mr. Mass introduced Kathy Standley as newest Park Commission member. Millar, Rabe and Ruth Park Woods parks were assigned to her.

- Mr. Field – Golf Course responded well to change of season. Fairways 7 and 9 have a fungus problem, but it's treatable. Ackert Walkway talked about the status of the arch entrance. No change in Metcalfe Park but is in good shape.
- Ms. Garth – not in attendance.
- Mr. Goldstein – nothing to report at Adams Park, Kaufman Park and the Bike Trails
- Ms. Jones – was not in attendance. Nothing to report at Heman Park.
- Ms. Peoples – one of the logs at the entrance of Fogerty Park is falling apart and more benches are needed during soccer games. Mr. Wilson reported there were 370 Fogerty tennis court survey's passed out and 0 were returned.
- Mr. Mass – nothing to report at Flynn Park, Lewis Park or Mooney Park.
- Ms. Standley – Millar Park looks good except for a small dead pine tree at the entrance. Nothing to report on Rabe Park and couldn't find the entrance at Ruth Park Woods.

### **Old Business**

Ruth Park Golf Course Committee has nothing new to report. Park Master Plan has not met yet. Park Commission will meet before the June meeting and discuss the by-laws.

### **News Business**

Mr. Lipin from Good Shepard Children and Family Services inquired about the possible installation of a new basketball court in existing recreational area at Majerus Park due to the trespassing issues of neighborhood youth using the Good Shepard basketball facilities.

Mr. Taylor expressed wanting clarification of the agenda item that he thought indicated the installation of basketball courts at Majerus Park which was previously discussed instead of it being an inquiry at this point.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Peoples moved to adjourn. Ms. Garth seconded. All in favor - the meeting ended at 7:42 pm.