



Park Commission

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 505-8560, Fax: (314) 862-0694

MINUTES OF THE PARK COMMISSION Centennial Commons, 7210 Olive Boulevard Tuesday, September 23, 2014

President Ed Mass called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Members present were:

Ed Mass
Steve Goldstein
William Field
Kathy Standley
Dawn Price

Megan Fuhler II, Project Manager & Park Commission Liaison
Lynda Euell-Taylor, Deputy Director of Recreation
Ewald Winker, Park Operations Superintendent
Stephen Kraft, Council Liaison

Excused Absence: Kimberly Jones
Unexcused Absence: Karen Culton

Deposition of Minutes from August 7, 2014

Mr. Goldstein moved to approve the minutes of the Park Commission meeting August 7, 2014 with these changes, Ms. Standley seconded – vote taken, all approved.

Swing with Me

Natalie Blakemore of Unlimited Play presented the “Swing with Me” program in which they are donating swings to communities. Ms. Blakemore stated that she had an adaptable high-back swing reserved for University City if the City has a place for it. There was a lot of discussion regarding the donation of the swing.

Mr. Goldstein moved to explore what options there are for the use of an adaptable swing, provided that we can do so without affixing a donor identification, second by Ms. Standley. Mr. Mass asked if there was any discussion, and Ms. Price indicated that she had a question regarding the donation sticker. She asked if everyone was against the donor notification. Additional discussion ensued and the motion was revised.

Revised motion by Mr. Goldstein: Part 1, accept the one offered subject to staff approval as to location; part 2, have staff report back next meeting whether there are any additional locations for a swing. Motion seconded by Ms. Standley – vote taken, all approved.

Department Reports

Public Works and Parks Operations – Mr. Winker discussed projects that he and his crews have accomplished over the past two months:

- Busy season with grass. Seeding, fertilizing and cutting.
- There were a lot of events in the parks, but because of the dry weather, there was no real damage to the grounds due to those events.
- Filled ruts and did minor repairs to the driving range.
- Routine maintenance performed on the golf course.

Community Development/Recreation Division – Ms. Euell-Taylor reported:

- Presented the pool schedule at the natatorium.
- The annual outdoor yard sale took place the same weekend of Fair U. City. All 32 spaces were reserved.
- New recreation guides were published and mailed. Should have been received by residents.



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- 431 participants in the Silver Sneakers program. Very good participation and reimbursed for the visits monthly.
- Passed out a flyer for the better block event that will be held on Thursday, October 2 at the corner of Midland and Olive.
- Participated in the Back to School, National Night Out. Handed out bike helmets.
- Concluded the 2014 summer camp program. Finished up with a carnival themed event.
- Position posted on the City website for a fitness supervisor.

Public Works and Parks Projects – Ms. Fuhler discussed ongoing and upcoming projects:

- Lewis Park bids opened and on the agenda for approval by City Council on October 13, 2014.
- Millar Park – First project finishing up, just waiting on the plants to be ready for the bio-retention area. Trail project approximately 65% designed with a plan to bid in the late winter. Third project will be to finalize the master plan using funds from the St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grant Commission. This application is due October 31, and the City staff's plan is to try to go above and beyond the baseline of "accessible" and try to be inclusive if funding allows.
- Department of Conservation Back to Nature StL grant application submitted. Should find out by the end of October if a grant was received.

Mr. Mass asked that the Public Works and Parks Project Update be added to the agenda under the Public Works and Parks Operation Update.

Citizen Comments

Elsie Glickert, 6712 Etzel – Not aware that Community Development would be part of the report. She was part of the flea market that was held in Heman Park the same time as the Jazz Festival and the Puppy Pool Party. Ms. Glickert felt that the flea market was very poorly published and that there were too many activities on the same day. What happens to the money that is collected for the spaces reserved for the flea market? Ms. Euell-Taylor indicated that the funds collected go into the general fund. Ms. Glickert indicated that the advertisement could be better in the future.

Elsie Glickert, 6712 Etzel – Heman Park Master Plan – Felt that the Heman Park Master Plan was deceiving because there was a drawing showing that there was an indoor pool adjacent to the outdoor pool, yet the cost for this is not included. She also thought that this was a floodplain and that you cannot build there. Mr. Mass explained that the Master Plan document indicates that the costs for the indoor aquatics are not included because more study is required. Mr. Goldstein indicated that his understanding of the area is that there are areas dedicated as floodplain and floodway and these areas have different requirements for building. The plan is showing a footprint that could be used for the indoor aquatics in the future and that the document is a road map for the future.

Kevin Taylor, 7220 Canton – Heman Park Master Plan – Would like explanation of the grant process, because he would like a complete understanding to ensure that City Council is not rushing into an approval, but are actually acting in order to meet the grant deadlines. Mr. Taylor also asked if City Council was aware of the total cost of this project. Ms. Fuhler explained the grant process for the Heman Park Master Plan, indicating that the deadline for submittal for funding is the end of December 2014. She also indicated that City Council approved the grant application and gave the City Manager authorization to sign a contract with the consultant to complete the study, including the supplemental cost.

Council Liaison Report

There is going to be a concerted effort on part of the City Council to get capital needs addressed as part of a bond issue. Look at future projects and future plans, and be able to provide a general prioritization and cost of these projects. City staff will begin drafting a list of projects.



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Individual Park Reports

- Mr. Goldstein – The tennis courts in Kaufman need cleaned up/hosed down. The caulking may have some pin-holing due to air in the caulk when it was placed.
- Mr. Fields – Metcalf and Ackert are good. The neighbors along the west side of Hole 6 have complained that there are people that walk around in their back yards looking for their balls. Mr. Winker indicated that the City would place out-of-bounds markers along this area. The existing signs at the golf course are going to begin to sag due to the moment. Mr. Fields suggests that staff install a bracket on the top corner to prevent further sagging. Mr. Winker indicated that this is a project that staff can complete.
- Ms. Standley – Millar and Rabe are in good condition, but the playgrounds need work. Ruth Park was cleaned up really well, but there was a lot of yard waste bags.
- Mr. Mass – Nothing new at Flynn or Lewis.

Old Business

- Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Ruth Park Golf Course meeting - none

New Business

Golf Course Hole 6 Balls Leaving the Course –The second issue is that balls continue to go into the yards of the neighbors across Groby Road. The Commission discussed different options to address this issue. Mr. Goldstein motioned to (1) increase the yardage marking on the cart path and/or fairway, (2) install signage with the following wording “Overshooting the 6th Green is hazardous to homes and cars; golfer is responsible for any damage. Please be especially careful. Hole plays shorter than actual distance,” (3) install deadening material. Motion seconded by Mr. Fields – vote taken, all approved.

Heman Park Master Plan – Discussion about the Master Plan took place. Mr. Goldstein moves to recommend the approval of the Heman Park Master Plan to City Council. Motion seconded by Mr. Fields. Comments were made and discussion was had (including citizens comments show above) – vote taken, all approved.

Adjournment

Mr. Fields moved to adjourn, Mr. Goldstein seconded – vote taken, all approved. The meeting ended at 9:12 pm.