



Park Commission

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MINUTES OF THE PARK COMMISSION HEMAN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER (HPCC), 975 PENNSYLVANIA TUESDAY, February 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm.

Present:

Steve Goldstein
Clarence Olsen
Kathy Standley
Nancy McClain
Luther Baker
Ed Mass, Park Commission President
Ewald Winker, Park Operations Superintendent
Jenny Wendt, Staff Liaison
Chris Kalter, Project Manager
Sinan Alpassian, Public Works and Parks Director

1. Minutes from January 17, 2017 meeting were approved. Steve Goldstein moved to approve the January 17, 2017 minutes with no changes, Nancy McClain seconded, vote taken – all approved.
2. Citizens' comments:
 - Eric Warren presented petition for basketball courts to be provided at either Fogerty Park or Greensfelder Park. Several signatures collected from around the area in support of petition. Reason for request; limited access to basketball west of Hanley Rd., safety concerns for children playing basketball in the street and traffic concerns, cost of Centennial Commons access is prohibitive to many who would like to use basketball court facilities.
 - Steve Goldstein brought up that basketball was presented at the Fogerty Park Master Planning design meeting. The citizens at the meeting did not favor adding basketball to the park plan.
 - Current hardsurface multipurpose recreational area in Fogerty Park might be looked into for basketball? No response to this idea.
 - Ed Mass asked about how children of different ages would share a single basketball court.
 - Luther Baker responded that pickup basketball uses two half-courts, so children of different ages could segregate.
 - Luther spoke of the adjacent church having an existing basketball court that is not in operation, looking for a donor to provide funding for new nets. They might provide access for neighborhood children to play. Other Park Commissioners were concerned that would limit access.
 - Greensfelder would be a more appropriate location. Eric Warren stated that either park would be equally convenient to use.
 - Steve Goldstein presented idea for providing new basketball nets at the city owned parking area at Greensfelder.
 - University City Sculpture Series: Students from Washington University presented 2 proposed sculpture ideas for temporary installation in Heman Park. Looked for Park Commission approval on site location and feedback on proposals. Installation March 18th-April 6th, installation will last 3 weeks. Students will deconstruct and re-sod lawn.
 - Will present at the Arts and Letters meeting, second Tuesday at 7:00pm for approval and selection.
 - Ewald Winker questioned the weight and mass of the sculpture. Presented fact that

these will be climbed on.

- Ed Mass concerned about blocking view of Heman park, but okay with this since it will be temporary.
- Clarence Olsen liked engaging this portion of the park where there is little to no use, also adding sitting area in sculptures. Concerned with metal plate falling from vertical position. Student guarantees safe installation and anchoring.
- This project has 30 years of history in the city.
- Steve Goldstein moved to approve the student proposal for use of park for sculptures for temporary installation. Clarence Olsen seconds, all vote. All approve except Luther Baker who voted no. Concerned with amount of clutter in the park, but understands this will be temporary

3. Department Reports were given to the commission.

- Ewald Winker says weather is good, ahead of schedule for the year. Performing maintenance, clean up, forestry.
- Golf Superintendent is retiring March 1st.
- Steve Goldstein asked about outsourcing the golf course maintenance. Not likely.
- Chris Kalter presented current projects including Kaufman tennis court construction, Fogerty park moving ahead of schedule. Restroom and Pavilion may be available early. Applying for DNR grant for Fogerty park phase 2 and 3 work.
 - Working with library on history of Lewis Park poster to include in sign. May create similar signs for other UCity parks. Chris will bring mockup to next meeting.
 - Heman park Drainage project was discussed, including an email from SWT Design which described each component of the project, costs associates, and which items were critical.
 - Mona Drive west of Groby is currently in need of dramatic improvements due to soil failure. \$300,000-\$450,000 will be needed to repair 1,400 linear feet of embankment.

4. Council Liaison Report: None

5. Individual Park Reports were provided by the Commission.

6. Old Business

- Mulch update. Leaf mulch has been outsourced last year which created a savings of \$125,000. This saves manpower and equipment performed by the Streets Dept. for other uses. A study session will be held by Council to discuss getting bids from multiple vendors for future leaf mulch. Park Commission recommends continuing this outsourcing and going out to bid with economic cost, quality of mulch, and environmental factors all contributing to the selection. Ed Mass moved for approval of the recommendation, Clarence Olsen seconds, all vote and approve.
- Storybook Walk funding of \$1,000 has been approved and Ewald Winker will begin construction of 15 display posts. The last post will be used to provide a link where the public can leave comments on the project. A link is needed to include. Installation in April.

7. New Business

- Playground Equipment Donations were discussed. Ed Mass thinks this is worth considering, but we need to develop a standard for donor names, and for memorials. Look at Trojan park as example. Also see NRPA for examples.
- Ed Mass presented Guiding Principles for Park Master Planning. Would like feedback from Park Commission by March 6th.
- Chris Kalter will send out a list of 2018 capital improvement projects at next meeting. Current list

includes softball field repair at Heman Park, Fogerty grant match, Golf Clubhouse roof and exterior repairs, Forestry tree removal for Emerald Ash Borer, Mona Drive repair, Majerus Park grant match, 2 new lawn mowers, and replace light fixtures at Ackert Park.

- Centennial Commons 20 year CIP was circulated. No comment.
- Ed Mass requested breakdown of CIP 5 year plan, including thought process behind what is included and excluded.
- Basketball request from Eric Warren: Park Commission Motion
We strongly recommend exploring the restoration of 2 basketball nets on city share of parking lot at Greensfelder Park, to provide 2 basketball standards and re-stripe basketball markings. Goal to provide community in that area of University City with healthy and safe environment to recreate. Steve Goldstein moves for approval and Nancy McClain seconds, all vote and approve.
- Luther Baker will be meeting with minister from adjacent church this week and will get their feedback on the proposed option for improving the basketball hoops in the gymnasium, and adding basketball hoops to the parking lot area.

8. Other Business: None

9. Citizens' comments: Professor of Washington University asked for feedback on student presentation.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.