

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
PARK COMMISSION
CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY, ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2020**

Agenda Item #1: Call Meeting to Order

Park Commission Vice President, Kevin Taylor called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item #2: Roll Call

Those in attendance included Commission Vice-President Kevin Taylor, Secretary Lisa Hummel, Commission Members Su Schmalz, Jay Redd, James Wilke and Meg Ullman. Also, in attendance was City Council Liaison Steve McMahon and Superintendent of Parks Maintenance Ewald Winker. Those not in attendance included Commission President Carl Hoagland, and Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry Darren Dunkle.

Agenda Item #3: Approval of the Agenda

Commission Member _____ motioned, and Commission Member _____ seconded to approve the Agenda. The motion was approved with a _____ vote.

Agenda Item #4: Approval of Minutes

Commission Member _____ motioned, and Commission Member _____ seconded to approve the minutes of January 21, 2020. The motion was approved with a _____ vote.

Agenda Item #5: Citizen Comments

None

Agenda Item #6: Department Report

Commission reviewed the submitted report.

- Discussion followed regarding the Audit Analysis and overall parks Work Plan. Commission would like more information and details.
- Greensfelder Park conceptual plan was discussed, and Commission Members would like more information before endorsing the plan.
- Commission had questions regarding the Lewis Park stormwater issues. Mainly the Commission wanted to know about the placement of the retaining wall. Superintendent of Parks Maintenance Ewald Winker informed the Commissions of the reasoning behind the placement and that staff has received positive comments regarding the placement.

Agenda Item #7: Council Report

None

Agenda Item #8: Unfinished Business

a) Parks Commission Priorities

Commission members felt the edits to the Priorities Document were never done properly. Commission Secretary Hummel was okay with the substance but felt it wasn't written well and wasn't ready for

public consumption. The Commission also questioned whether the merge between staff's priorities and the Commission's priorities ever took place.

Commission Member _____ motioned, and Commission Member _____ seconded to have the Park Priorities placed on the March agenda. The motion was approved with a _____ vote.

b) Dog Park Surfacing Review

Commission Secretary Hummel stated that she had requested the dog park surfacing to be placed on the agenda in hopes of being totally transparent regarding the endorsement to utilize wood chips. However, since there wasn't any public comment or concern at the meeting, she was okay with the use of wood mulch as a surface. Commission Vice-President Taylor stated that he wanted more documentation on why wood chips are cheaper. Mr. Taylor went on to state that he felt the Commission should demand a cost analysis of wood chips versus other types of surfacing and is seeking full disclosure. Commission Member Ullman stated that if this becomes a big issue, the City should just close the dog park. Council Liaison McMahon was asked if the ordinance to make the property park land also committed the City to keeping it a dog park and for how long. Council Liaison McMahon stated that he didn't know.

Agenda Item #9: New Business

a) Park Inspection Reports – Commission members stated that they didn't know what was expected of them regarding providing park inspections for their assigned parks. Commission Secretary Hummel stated that she constantly fills out a report for each of her assigned parks monthly but isn't sure if any action is taken. Commission Member Schmalz state that she visits her assigned parks very frequently but rarely provides a written report, Commission Member Wilke stated that he has provided a detailed report including photos but never heard if anything had been addressed. The Commission stated that they would like to discuss this further at the next meeting.

b) Parks, Recreation and Forestry Budget

Commission Members were pleased with the budget report that Mr. Dunkle provided for the meeting but would like to see the detailed budgets for Parks, Recreation & Forestry. The Commission believed by way of the bylaws they were required to provide a yearend condition of and needs assessment for the park report to City Council. The Commission voted unanimously to place this item on the March agenda for discussion and process.

Commission Member _____ motioned, and Commission Member _____ seconded to have the Budget placed on the March agenda. The motion was approved with a _____ vote.

Agenda Item #10: Adjournment

Commission Member _____ made a motion at _____ pm, seconded by Commission Member _____ to adjourn. The motion was approved with a _____ vote.

MINUTES SUBJECT TO PARKS COMMISSION APPROVAL.