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PARKS, RECREATION AND ARTS COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING RESULTS

**May 10, 2022
4:00 p.m.
City Hall, Room 101**

Chairperson Budoor called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Those in attendance included:
Councilmember Barb McGuinness, Ward I
Councilmember Mary Ann Mastorakos, Ward II
Councilmember Michael Moore, Ward III
Chairperson Gary Budoor, Ward IV

Also in attendance were:
Councilmember Merrell Hansen, Ward IV
Director of Parks, Recreation & Arts, Tom McCarthy
Executive Assistant, Parks, Recreation & Arts, Ann-Marie Stagoski
Louise Nation

Agenda Item #1: Election of Committee Liaison and Vice Chair

Councilmember Mastorakos made a motion to appoint Councilmember Moore as Vice Chair to the committee and Chairperson Budoor as liaison to the Parks, Recreation & Arts Citizens Advisory Committee, seconded by Councilmember McGuinness. There being no discussion, the motion was passed by a voice vote of 4 to 0.

Agenda Item #2: Approval of Meeting Results

The meeting results of the February 28, 2022 Parks, Recreation & Arts Committee of Council Meeting were submitted for approval. Councilmember Mastorakos made a motion, seconded by Councilmember McGuinness, to approve the meeting results. There being no discussion, the motion was passed by a voice vote of 4 to 0.

Agenda Item #3: Creative Arts Alliance Public Art location

Director McCarthy stated that council approved the artwork for the Creative Arts Alliance to lease the art *Popsicles* for two years. The Parks Advisory Committee determined the location they recommended for the artwork and felt the best spot was in Central Park north of the South Plaza. It is centrally located and not so close to the playground that it could be mistaken as something kids could climb on. Maintenance staff would install a pad and secure the sculpture to the pad. In two years, when it's returned, they would remove the pad and re sod the pad space.

Councilmember McGuinness moved to approve the recommendation. Councilmember Moore seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion passed on a voice vote of 4-0.

Installation is expected in early June if the full Council approves.

Agenda Item #4: Logan Park Phase II Budget Transfer

Director McCarthy announced that approval from Metropolitan Sewer District was secured last Friday. On June 6th the restroom facility is expected to be installed. It will not be functional at this time as it will still need to be plumbed and have utilities installed. The pavilion construction will begin in the next 2-3 weeks. The pavilion, playground and restroom were ordered last year so the large price increase was avoided.

The Parks Department received a grant for Phase II so at this time an approval of a transfer of \$664,925 is requested and forwarded to full council. The funds will come from the Parks Fund, Fund Reserve. Once the work is complete and inspections performed, the City will be reimbursed \$525,000 from the grant agency.

This phase is expected to be complete in early 2023. The current challenge is getting contractors to complete the work. The bid has not gone out for the parking lot at this time. A construction road has been added and will be removed after the completion of the park construction.

Councilmember Moore moved to approve the recommendation. Councilmember Mastorakos seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion passed on a voice vote of 4-0.

Agenda Item #5: ARPA City Hall Landscaping Project

Director McCarthy stated that \$125,000 was available from ARPA funds to landscape City Hall. The Parks Department was given direction to eliminate the overgrown look. Assistant Director Jarvis and Supervisor Nolting worked on a four-phase plan.

The Parks Department will start with the north entrance to City Hall, removing the overgrowth and sodding. Mulch, flowers and other plants will be added around boulders and the water features. Gravel will be added around the water features which will be easier to maintain and keep the weeds at bay.

There was discussion on different elements including: thinning of plants in the pond, removing boxwoods out front, removing several trees in the parking lot, adding name plates to some plantings for plant identification, how to increase visibility of back water feature, along with utilizing decoys and sound systems to deter geese. The work would start after council approval and would be completed as time between the regular Parks duties as time allows.

Councilmember McGuinness made a motion to approve the plan and send it to full council. Councilmember Mastorakos seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion was passed by a voice vote of 4 to 0.

Agenda Item #6: Pickleball Update

Director McCarthy explained that at this time there is no new location options for pickleball courts in Central Park. Councilmember McGuinness stated that some would like to explore locating them behind the YMCA. She felt that the City could not afford additional amenities without an additional revenue stream to offset the costs of these amenities.

There was discussion on previous plans and private options vs. public options for playing pickleball. Several councilmembers stated they remained interested in exploring options for pickleball.

Councilmember Moore moved to direct Parks to work with the YMCA on a plan for pickleball with them. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McGuinness. There being no discussion, the motion was passed by a voice vote of 4 to 0.

Agenda Item #7: Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

Agenda Item #8: New Business

Director McCarthy informed the committee that Gershman has made the offer to the City to rent some of their parking during events for \$1,500 per day at their building at 16150 Main Circle Dr. They have reached out to St. Louis Parking who has offered \$2,000 per day. In the past Sachs let the residents utilize the parking for free during events however, Gershman no longer wishes to extend that service to the community. They will be charging during the Country Fair. During Sounds of Summer concert series, the pool closes at 7:00 but the concerts doors open at 6:00 so less parking is available in the main lot.

There was discussion on running shuttles, comments on parking on the grass which they do at the at Faust Park concerts, trying to get grass to grow in the big field, coordinating with a valet parking company to assist in parking cars, offering a tax deduction for parking on Gershman lot, and not being able to park on the Sachs properties because winter wheat is planted between the parkway and the mall. There was also discussion about the need to look into charging a small admission fee next year for the concerts that are now free to help defray some of our cost.

Agenda Item #9: Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Budoor adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.