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7-11-18

PARKS, RECREATION AND ARTS COMMITTEE MEETING RESULTS

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Arts Committee of Council took place on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 5:30 PM. Those in attendance included Councilmember Barbara McGuinness, Ward 1; Councilmember Mary Ann Mastorakos, Ward 2; Council Member Chairperson Dan Hurt, Ward 3 and Councilmember Michelle Ohley, Ward 4. Also in attendance were Mayor Bob Nation; Director of Parks, Recreation and Arts Tom McCarthy and Executive Assistant Ann-Marie Stagoski.

Chairperson Hurt called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Agenda Item #1: Approval of Minutes

The May 7, 2018 meeting summary was discussed and a few issues were brought to the attention of the Council for correction. A motion was made by Councilmember Ohley and seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos to amend the minutes by changing the meeting end time to 6:15 and correcting Agenda item #4 to read "Once we get the Grant we will put the information in the City newsletter . . ." A voice vote was taken and the amendments were approved 3 to 1.

Councilmember McGuinness brought an additional error to the attention of the committee and suggested correcting the agenda item #3 to reflect Councilmember McGuinness as the member who nominated Councilmember Mastorakos as the Council Liaison. A voice vote was taken and the amendment was approved 4 to 0.

Agenda Item #2: Discussion of Municipal Parks Grant project

Director McCarthy gave an overview of the proposed project for the Municipal Parks Grant submission and the project was discussed. The ownership of the property should be transferred to the City in the near future. Aerial photos of the site were distributed. Grading, water (needed for drinking fountain, maintenance and irrigation) and electric would be necessary to complete the building of the pavilions. The pavilions would mimic the design of the pavilion across the street and include barbecue pits, partial fencing and steps off the side. The projected cost was estimated at \$450,000 - \$500,000. A potential grant from the Municipal Parks Grant Commission could fund up to \$525,000.

There was discussion on whether two larger pavilions could be built to help meet the demand for pavilion rental sites and how parking would be affected by two additional pavilions. Locations of the pavilions in relation to the sightline of the Awakening Statue were discussed. The average pavilion rental group is 40-65 people. The pavilion across the street can accommodate up to 100 but 75 is recommended. Pavilions are usually rented by the organizer when larger events take place so there wouldn't be a competition for parking space during those events.

Councilmembers agreed there was a consensus on the need to run the utilities across the street, that at least two, independent pavilions were preferred, and that the new pavilions can accommodate 40-100 people.

Director McCarthy discussed closing Veterans Place Drive to all through traffic and turning it into a plaza for the park in the future. Mayor Nation suggested building a pavilion smaller than the current one. Councilmember Mastorakos voiced concern over the aesthetics of the property. Councilmember Hurt suggested angling pavilions toward the amphitheater. Councilmember Ohley suggests putting a pavilion parallel to street parking and inquired as to the feasibility of two larger pavilions. Councilmember McGuinness suggested park benches or more seating. Councilmember Mastorakos suggested picnic tables. Councilmember Ohley suggested adding trees, landscaping and shrubs to help direct the flow of visitors. Councilmember McGuinness asked about closing the road to traffic completely. Director McCarthy added that the wood mulch at the base of the Awakening would need to be replaced with engineered fiber. Rubberized surface similar to playgrounds was also discussed.

Councilmember McGuinness moved and Councilmember Ohley seconded that a resolution authorizing the City of Chesterfield to apply for a Municipal Parks Grant for the procurement and installation of a pavilion on the one acre piece of property to be acquired from Sachs Property at 16032 Main Circle Drive go to the full City Council. The voice vote was taken and approved 4 to 0. This item will be forwarded to City Council for consideration at the July 16, 2018 meeting.

Agenda Item #3: Discussion of St. Louis County Public Health Waste Reduction Grant

Director of Parks, Recreation and Arts Tom McCarthy advised that the City was successful in obtaining the waste reduction grant in the amount of \$24,800.

1st part of the Grant – Parks intends to add 24 recycle bins at the F Quad at the Sports Complex - \$11,500.00

2nd part of the Grant – Will provide funding for composting units. Parks intends to purchase 150 – 200 composting units and sell to the Chesterfield residents. 20 bins will be set aside for use by schools.

There was discussion on the increase in recycling at the amphitheater after recycling bins were made available. Prior to the addition of recycling bins the City collected 395 pounds of recycling at an event attended by 4,500 people. After the addition of recycling bins the City collected 1,873 pounds at an event (June 16, 2018) attended by 2,000 people. The increase is credited to the addition of 26 recycle bins and education of the public.

A motion was made by Councilmember McGuinness and seconded by Councilmember Ohley to move the Waste Reduction proposal forward to Council. A voice vote was taken and approved 4 to 0. This item will be forwarded to City Council for consideration at the July 16, 2018 meeting.

Agenda Item #4: Update on the Park Master Plan

Director McCarthy gave an overview on the status of the Master Plan. Consultants are still meeting with key thought leaders. A survey is on the City website. There will be a statistical survey in about 4 weeks. The consulting firm will provide a comparison of Chesterfield to others. A demographic analysis will be done.

Councilmember Hurt inquired about the sample size of the surveys and how they cross section.

There was an inquiry on the cons of the amphitheater. Director McCarthy commented that parking was an issue, there are no showers in the green room and storage for sound equipment and tables are limited.

Adding tents for VIP type “boxes” at the top of the amphitheater was discussed.

Councilmember McGuinness inquired about the estimated time of completion of the Master Plan. Director McCarthy stated that they started in March of 2018 and it was estimated to take one year.

Councilmember Hurt discussed the possibility of a parking garage built in cooperation with the YMCA.

Agenda Item #5: Old Business

No old business was discussed.

Agenda Item #6: New Business

Councilmember Hurt brought up the need for member emeritus and suggested guidelines be developed. Councilmember McGuinness suggested that an emeritus person cannot be an officer. This emeritus status for committees will be forwarded to the Finance and Administrative committee and once they complete a review and make recommendations for an emeritus program we can bring it back to committee for further action.

Meeting ended at 6:31 PM on July 10, 2018