



DATE: December 19, 2011

TO: Michael G. Herring, City Administrator

FROM: Mike Geisel, Director of Planning, Public Works & Parks

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes – 12/16/2011 Parks and Recreation Committee

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee took place on Friday, December 16, 2011. Those in attendance included Chairperson Elliot Grissom, Ward 2, Councilmember Barry Flachsbart, Ward 1, Councilmember Mike Casey, Ward 3 and Councilmember Bob Nation, Ward 4. Also in attendance were City Administrator Mike Herring, Director of Parks and Recreation Tom McCarthy, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation Steve Jarvis, Superintendent of Recreation Operations Kari Johnson, and Executive Secretary Kathy Lantz.

Chairperson Grissom called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Agenda Item #1: Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Casey made a motion to approve the July 28, 2011 Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Flachsbart and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Agenda Item #2: Eberwein Park Amenities and Recommendation

Director of Parks and Recreation -Tom McCarthy stated that the Eberwein Dog Park has been a huge success and Staff is suggesting that a Community Garden be added to the site, in keeping with the original Master Plan for the Eberwein Park.. Staff is recommending that the Community Garden be planned for approximately 45 garden plots, but initially constructed with 30 plots. Each garden plot would consist of individually raised planting beds that are approximately four (4) feet in width and eight (8) feet in length and one (1) foot deep. The Community Garden will be located just east of the barn and would occupy 7,000 square feet of space (for 30 plots). The plots will be rented to Chesterfield residents only for \$30.00 per year. The cost to build the Community Garden with in-house labor will be approximately \$16,000.00. If approved, Staff believes that the Community Garden could be ready for the 2012 spring season.

City Administrator Mike Herring stated that the Master Plan included the Community Garden. Staff has done significant research and the Community Garden will be a popular addition to a park since many people do not have the time, space or do not want to tear up their own yard. There would be limits on what could be planted and residents would be required to maintain the plots or their contract would be terminated.

Steve Jarvis stated that the \$16,000.00 would include most of the preparatory work for the 45 plots, continuous fence around the Community Garden and walkways between the raised beds. He stated that basically only lumber to construct the perimeter of the additional beds would be needed to complete the remaining 15 plots if needed, for a minimal additional cost.

Councilmember Casey asked if the City determines which pesticides, fertilizers and fungicides can be used.

Steve Jarvis stated that the Rules and Regulations for the Community Garden would state what could and could not be done or used.

Mr. Jarvis stated that the City would be responsible for the annual tilling and preparation of the garden beds prior to each planting season.

Mr. Herring stated that the purpose today was to get approval of the Committee for the Community Garden and Staff would come back with Rules and Regulations for Council approval.

Mr. Jarvis stated that Staff came up with \$30.00 per plot to stay consistent with the dog park fees. He stated that this location for the garden permits access to water.

Councilmember Flachsbart asked if 30 plots would be enough since Chesterfield has many condominiums and apartments.

Mr. Herring stated that 30 plots is more than most cities have and that Chesterfield is larger than most of the other cities. He stated that it would be a nice problem to have if all of the plots were rented. He stated that the Community Garden could be enlarged to 45 plots. He stated that most of the work would be done in-house which allows for the low rental rates. He also stated that more senior citizens take advantage of opportunities like this since they have the time to do it and it is designed to create ownership.

Mr. Jarvis stated that the present location would not allow more than 45 plots due to the City's desire to maintain the open field area. Mr. Jarvis stated that there is a community garden by the art gallery in Chesterfield Valley which is not owned by the City.

Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to forward to City Council the recommendation of approval for the Community Garden and the transfer of \$16,000.00 from the Parks Fund - Fund Reserve. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Casey and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Mr. McCarthy stated that some Chesterfield senior citizens had requested that the City install shuffleboard courts at the Eberwein Park. Staff has investigated the proposal

and recommends that two shuffleboard courts could be added north of the parking lot and east of the restroom facility. As with the Community Garden, the courts would be built using in-house labor from the Streets and Parks Maintenance staff. The estimated cost of constructing these courts is \$8,065.00.

Mr. Herring stated that the participants would bring their own equipment (paddles and weighted pucks) to play and the City would provide brooms to sweep the courts.

Councilmember Flachsbart asked if two (2) courts would be enough.

Mr. McCarthy stated that there would be room to expand. He also stated that the courts could be completed by the spring of 2012.

Councilmember Flachsbart stated that he could envision a shuffleboard tournament and that senior citizens love activities such as this.

Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to recommend that City Council approve Staff's recommendation to construct the shuffleboard courts and fund same by a transfer of \$8,065.00 from the Parks Fund - Fund Reserve. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Casey and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Mr. McCarthy stated that the information on the Butterfly Garden has been provided for informational purposes only. Mr. Jarvis is working with Girl Scouts to install that project which will be located on the northeast corner of the site.

Councilmember Flachsbart stated that all three (3) projects were great additions to the park.

Agenda Item #3: 2012 Eberwein Dog Park Rules, Regulations and Fees

Ms. Johnson stated that, pertaining to the Eberwein Dog Park Rules and Regulations, the item #1 in bold is a change from last year. The rule change is that **'any dog that is of a Staffordshire bull terrier, pit bull breed or pit bull mix will not be allowed in the dog park, as defined in City of Chesterfield Ordinance #2198.'**

Ms. Johnson stated that item #13 **'No children under ten (10) years of age are allowed'** is in bold to emphasize a current rule and is not new.

Councilmember Nation stated that some types of pit bull dogs can be very mild-mannered.

Ms. Johnson stated that protocol from the Police Department is that anyone who applies for a dog tag and has a pit bull mix, must talk to the Police and they will decide if the dog can be approved for the dog park. The Police Department requires certain registration procedures for this type of dog in the City. The main concern of the Police Department is the Staffordshire bull terrier.

Councilmember Nation stated that the Rules and Regulations do not state that there still is the possibility of a pit bull breed or pit bull mix being approved for the dog park, depending on approval by the Police Department.

Councilmember Flachsbart asked if the Rules and Regulations should be modified to read **'not allowed in the dog park except with specific Police permission.'**

Mr. Herring stated that there already is a separate City ordinance in place that regulates this breed.

Mr. Herring suggested tabling this item until Council is provided with a copy of City Ordinance #2198 and determine, if approved by the Police, whether the dog still could come to the dog park.

Councilmember Casey asked it had become an issue with the dogs.

Ms. Johnson stated that there had been one (1) application from 2011 for a dog tag for an American pit bull breed. Ms. Johnson stated that she was informed that, in the future, if this dog owner registered for a dog tag, they must register first with the Police Department.

Mr. Herring stated that the confusion is whether all breeds of this dog are barred from the dog park or whether they can get a dog tag if approved by the Police Department.

Councilmember Casey asked if the Eberwein Dog Park Acceptance of Risk and Release of Liability is currently being used because, by signing this, a dog owner is certifying that their dog is not a Staffordshire bull terrier, pit bull or pit bull mix, as defined in City of Chesterfield Ordinance #2198.

Ms. Johnson stated that it currently is in use.

Ms. Herring stated that according to what is written in the Rules and Regulations that, under no circumstances can a Staffordshire bull terrier, pit bull breed or pit bull mix be allowed in the dog park but if this type of dog can be in the dog park with Police approval, then the Rules and Regulations needs to be rewritten.

Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to forward to City Council the recommendation to approve the Eberwein Dog Park Rules and Regulations as is and bring back a potential amendment that may add the words: 'As defined this way, will not be allowed except with Police permission' based on conversations with the Police Department and Staff. For right now the breed in question is not allowed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Casey and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Staff will bring forth an amendment at the next Committee meeting if there can ever be an exception concerning this breed of dog.

Agenda Item #4: 2012 Amphitheater Rules and Regulations

Ms. Johnson stated that all rules and regulations are reviewed on an annual basis and that slight tweaks were made for the Amphitheater Rental Rates following the first year of activity. The changes include eliminating a few classifications. All rentals fit into three (3) classifications: City Sponsored, Private or Commercial.

Councilmember Grissom asked if under **II. Rental Fees: #5: Ticket Sales: The City will require Lessee to pay City ten percent (10%) of the gross ticket sales, less all applicable taxes, with a maximum charge not to exceed \$3,000.00** was in addition to the groups rental rate.

Ms. Johnson stated that, yes, it was in addition.

Councilmember Casey motioned to forward to City Council the recommended approval of the new Amphitheater Rules, Regulations and Rental Rates. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Flachsbart and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Agenda Item #5: Soda Exclusivity Recommendation

Ms. Johnson stated that currently Pepsi Americas is the provider of beverages for the City and that the contract ends at the conclusion of 2011. The soda exclusivity went out for bid and the City received bids from Pepsi Americas and Coca Cola. After comparing the two (2) bids with the previous soda exclusivity, Staff is recommending accepting the soda exclusivity bid of Pepsi Americas. Ms. Johnson stated that the bid proposal consisted of: 1. Exclusivity Consideration where the successful contractor will pay the City an annual consideration for the right to provide an exclusive product line; 2. Marketing and Advertising: Successful contractor will work with the City to develop a successful marketing and advertising support for facilities and programs; 3. Product Line/Rebates: Successful contractor shall provide a full line and variety of products which the City shall receive a rebate from the concessionaires price for each item; and 4. Equipment: Successful contractor shall provide free of charge, all equipment, service, repairs and replacement.

Ms. Johnson stated that Staff is recommending that Council accept the soda exclusivity bid of Pepsi Americas which would provide a guaranteed annual sponsorship payment in the amount of \$19,000.00 per year. We would be enrolled in the Rewards Plus program as a Platinum member which would allow for the City to earn points towards merchandise, free cases of product, etc. The contract would run through the year 2014.

Councilmember Flachsbart motioned to forward to City Council the Committee's recommendation that the City accept the proposal submitted by Pepsi Americas for the 2012-2014 fiscal years. Staff will initiate additional negotiations on nominal items to attempt to further enhance the contract proposal. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Casey and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

Agenda Item #6: 2012 Calendar Of Activities And Events Proposed And In The Budget

Ms. Johnson stated that many new events and programs are planned by the Parks and Recreation Department for 2012. The Summer Concert Series will now start at 8:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. Some highlights for 2012 are: Two (2) more concerts are planned, partnering with the Police Department for a Safety Day (using Veterans Place Drive and the Aquatic Center); continuing with the Lafayette Older Adults Program (LOAP's); June 23 will be an Employee Appreciation Picnic at the pavilion followed by the Trixie Delight Concert at the amphitheater; dog clinic; and 'Flash Programming' which has Staff going to the parksites with toys and just starting to play with the kids.

Councilmember Flachsbart suggested getting input from the dog park members as to what they might like for the dog clinic.

Councilmember Casey stated that Staff has done a great job with the 2011 programs and the 2012 programs look to be even better.

Ms. Johnson stated that this item does not require a motion and is for information only.

Agenda Item #7: Adjournment

The Committee adjourned their meeting at 8:02 a.m.