



**Parks & Rec Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2016
FINAL**

Minutes taken by Kimberly Cameron

Attendees: Laura Schellenberg Kimberly Cameron John Gruender John Nations Cindy Lau
Darcy Capstick Tricia Whelan Mike Whelan Alan Politte Don Collins
Michelle Keesal Barry Flachsbart

May 7th - Fishing Derby 8:15-11:30

May 13th - Yappy Hour 5-7:30

Meeting led by Mike Whelan

Staff liaison: Tom McCarthy

1) **Approval of Minutes** - Darcy motioned approval of minutes, Mike second, approved.

2) Future projects and long range goals/priorities

- update of Master Plan (from 2010)

Alan made a motion to formally develop Railroad Park (RRP), Mike 2nd

Discussion

- Darcy pointed out value of habitats, Girl/Boy Scouts
- Cindy suggested we table and review priorities before making decisions
- 33 acres at RRP, but there are both access and flood issues, extensive bridge would be needed (Tom has spoken with an engineer about the bridge)
- 17 acres on the west end (not owned by the city) worth evaluating acquisition as it provides more parking, better access and potential for pavilion and restrooms
- Kimberly asked why this RRP is a viable priority due to access issues, flooding issues, lack of parking, etc.
- Alan conveyed RRP this is an area worth investigating as it would be ideal for pavilions
- Motion is tabled until next month while Tom brings in more information

City Council priorities

- River's Edge was the biggest priority last year
- Evaluating parks in northern section of the city remains a need
- Barry - most all parks and park land is in Ward 4, desire to acquire more land while it remains available, but no immediate priority

Michelle – Retreat recap

- New ideas for park development (River's Edge, RRP & Pavilion)
- Volunteer needs expanded

Barry - suggested we evaluate RRP to review opportunities.

Alan agrees. He believes this is a multi-year process

Tom – Bringing a bridge into RRP is possibly a municipal grant project for 2017

Barry asked about the activity for pursuing the other 17 acres

Kimberly- Is Eberwein NOT considered for a pavilion due to parking and location?

Tom- Yes, parking issues....neighbor's would be unhappy and additional parking would create a lot of concrete

John N. - Eberwein is exactly what it is used for (open space to toss a frisbee, dog park and 53 community garden plots)



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3) Volunteers needed

April 9th - Live Art Project

May 7th - Fishing Derby (15 volunteers needed, Laura suggested Boy Scouts and troop leaders volunteer)

May 19th - First Concert

4) Park Reviews

Mike & Tricia went to River's Edge - erosion, water is going down

Cindy - rock and drainage at Eberwein is great. Tom is glad it was noticed

Two complaints - 6 break-ins to cars and mud in dog park

5) Staff report

Plats are laid out at Bishops Post lot for community garden

C2 at athletic complex

Added flower beds, walk zones to E and D Quads from the F parking lot

F5 & F6 - 2 new fields, under 8 (opening soon)

Sounds of Summer and Art Orchestra

Fishing Derby

Art in the Park

Jazz Festival

Pickleball

Greentrails playground (needs work)

- Tom suggests expanding on it, add a pavilion, rest rooms
- Pavilion can be rented during the weekends

6) New Business

Greentrails playground improvements and opportunities

Darcy Capstick mentioned that the Silver Anniversary for Earth Day will be April 30, 2016 indoors and outdoors at Chesterfield Mall; sun/shade wildflower kits for Monarchs will be for sale on Earth Day; Millennium Green Heritage Grove Replaquing – MO Arbor Day Tree Planting will be April 1, 2016; Project Pollinator is at the Butterfly House on March 15, 2016; and the BiodiverseCity St. Louis/MBGdn. meeting will be on March 18, 2016.

7) Adjourn 9:15am

Next Meeting - April 9th