

Chesterfield Parks and Recreation Advisory
Committee Meeting Minutes
November 9th, 2013

Minutes taken by Tricia Whelan.

Attendees: Alan Politte, John Gruender, Don Collins, Bill Dowdy, Tricia Whelan, Cindy Lau, Mike Whelan, John Nations, Guy Tilman, Gary Stein
Staff Liaison: Tom McCarthy Committee Chair: Michelle Keesal

Michelle Keesal called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 12, 2013 meeting were approved.

Mission Statement

Michelle Keesal updated the committee on the mission statement. It has now been approved by council. Michelle Keesal and Tom McCarthy are going to meet and go over the top five projects as identified by the committee earlier this year.

Park Review Form

Tom McCarthy reviewed the Park Review Form. He passed out review forms for the following Parks:

Eberwein Park

Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex/Multi-Sports Fields

Chesterfield Valley Athletic Complex/Baseball/Softball

Central Park

Amphitheater Linear Park

W.F. Dierberg Meditation Park

Each Park has different components so the forms are different. These are general ideas for the Parks. Tom McCarthy said it would be great if the members could look at the Parks from a resident perspective and see the big picture. Are the parks cleaned and well maintained? Are there issues that have been overlooked by the staff? Today the committee will tour the Eberwein Park. It was suggested that two people go to each Park and report back on the status of the Parks from a resident perspective. The forms are to be used as guidance. There is not set requirement for the reviews. If you keep a packet in your car and happen to visit a Park, feel free to use the forms. It may be that shirts will be provided in the future to identify the Park Committee Members. This will give us an extra set of eyes and ears. We do want it to be flexible for the members.

Tom McCarthy discussed the signage. There is presently no signage at Railroad Park and no signage at Rivers Edge. This will come in the future as the Parks are developed. There are sign ordinances such as no neon signs. The signs will be tasteful and comply with all rules.

Community Stewardship Grant

Tom McCarthy reported that the City did receive a \$90,000.00 Community Stewardship Grant. This will help with the native plantings, prairie development and water issues at the Parks. The Scout troops and Mindy, the City Arborist will be closely involved in the grant money plans. Tom McCarthy congratulated Mindy on her exceptional work in getting the grant.

Staff Report

Tom McCarthy updated the committee on the bleacher covers. The solar panels are going up this week. The council approved the additional funding for the bleacher covers. Tom McCarthy stated that there was over 200 teams at the exposure tournaments for girls baseball and the bleacher covers will be greatly appreciated by these groups. Tom McCarthy stated that the E Quad dugouts will be demolished soon. There is a water issue with a retention pond and mosquitos that will be fixed. Also the Parks Staff is doing some additional work at the amphitheater by creating an additional wall to help with the water issues. There is also some stonework being done on the trails.

Tom McCarthy discussed the Rivers Edge Park. The Conservation Department Report was received regarding the fish habitat. The River is not the best habitat for fishing due to its bowl shape. It is likely the Lake will be stocked frequently as the fish will have difficulty spawning. The bridge is going in at Central Park. It will be an actual loop now rather than two dead ends.

Tom McCarthy updated the committee on the Turkey Trot. There are already 2,400 runners registered. Fleet Feet is a sponsor. It is estimated that over 4,400 people will participate. There are two other events in the area that day. Tom McCarthy said that volunteers for the Turkey Trot would be greatly appreciated.

Additional Business

Bill Dowdy asked about the status of the bike trails. Tom McCarthy updated the committee on the bike levee trail. They are still waiting for a pump station. The completion could be 2 years away as the City is working with MODOT on the highway part. Tom McCarthy will contact the Wildwood Parks Department regarding the Centaur Road section of the trail.

Alan Politte asked about additional parking at the football fields as it appears there is limited parking during popular events. When it is at capacity there is a parking issue. Tom McCarthy will look into the parking issues at the Athletic Complex. The loop road did provide additional parking which helped.

The committee toured the Eberwein Park. The meeting was adjourned.