

City of Fairfax

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)

Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2013

Sherwood Community Center

PRAB Members Present:

Joseph Harmon

Esther Nasjleti

Jane Albro

Brian Knapp

Jennifer Passey [for part of meeting]

Mike Slawski

Donald Lederer

Harry Wilbur

Becky McNaughton

Evie Ifantides

Zinta Rodgers-Rickert

Douglas Stewart

Mitch Sutterfield [standing in for Toby Sorenson]

Members Absent

Toby Sorensen

Guests:

Chris McGough, Environmental Sustainability Committee

Staff:

Michael McCarty, Director of Parks & Recreation

Joanna Ormesher, Cultural Arts & Marketing Manager

1. Call to Order

Joseph Harmon called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Trails Sub-Committee meeting in January will brief PRAB in February meeting to prioritize the parks projects.

3. Strategic Master Plan for Parks & Recreation

Six proposals were submitted: three selected for interview: Green Play, Heller and Heller and Brandstetter Carroll Inc.. Interview date Jan 23rd Selection in February, take to Council Schedule for completion 8 – 10months. Budget \$25,000 of proffer money

Comment by Brian Knapp - Need to look carefully and get a strong Phase One to encourage a Phase Two

Director McCarty talked about the Mason Strategic Plan and potential for collaboration and partnerships. Concurrently the Fairfax County Park Authority will be carrying out a survey so the links will benefit all concerned.

4. C.I.P.

Planning Commission is meeting on January 14th with a Planning/Council Work Session on Jan 22nd. Meeting notes are positive. Brian Knapp asked Director McCarty the status of the CIP proposed budget?

Director McCarty noted that the City CIP totaled \$7 million in proposed funds while they have the ability to fund approximately \$3 million. No decisions have been made on final inclusion of CIP items into the City Managers Budget.

5. Kitty Pozer Garden

No quotes for Bravadas House. Planned start time early summer. Time frame for completion needs to be aggressive in order to finish before Lights & Carols. Harry Wilbur shared that the Petersen family have donated the Pozer Interpretation garden.

6. Dedicated Tax funding for Parks and Recreation.

Chairman Harmon suggested that PRAB should create a working document to advocate a position on recommending a referendum for a Bond or a special tax rate that would fund needed capital. Brian Knapp suggested that before either could be recommended that a list of priorities would need to be developed. Chairman Harmon recommended that the current capital needs list was the list of priorities.

PRAB agreed to discuss this issue further and suggested that a speaker for each option be brought in for the next PRAB meeting in February to discuss the pros and cons of each

7. Legacy Fundraising

Chairman Harmon reported that there would be no Mayor's Ball for the foreseeable future. This was the fundraising opportunity for the Legacy program. The members discussed ways to raise money in the upcoming year. They focused on hosting a dinner event or series of events by partnering with local restaurants. It was also noted that this is a good way for building the PRAB/business partnerships within the Community.

The following PRAB members volunteered to work on this; Jennifer Passey, Becky McNaughton, Doug Stewart, and Joseph Harmon.

8. Parks and Recreation Report

Director McCarty shared the many improvements made to the Senior Center,

Staff met at Mason and had a tour of Recreation facilities. Joint talks about challenges, programming, staff training, opportunities etc. We will host the Mason team in Feb/March

Talked about the Tree transplanting at Ratcliffe Park. JL Trees donated the labor; a resident, Jennifer Harrington, donated trees.

Kutner Community Gardens moving forward, fencing will be installed shortly. Two spaces are being donated to Our Daily Bread.

Mini Park moving along – a ribbon cutting will be scheduled.

January 19th – FPYC Gala at Sherwood.

Report as submitted by Director McCarty

9. Approval of Minutes.

Minutes from PRAB meeting December 2012 were approved with two changes:

- Brian Knapp's name misspelled.
- Doug Stewart misquoted

Motion to approve amended minutes Chairman Joseph, all approved unanimously

10. Stakeholder Updates

- Commission on the Arts – Harry Wilbur

Commission will finalized their internal Strategic Plan at the next meeting, and then will be able to move forward with the Public Art Policy

- Community Appearance Committee – Don Lederer

City got the Keep America Beautiful Award for Outstanding Beautification – will be awarded in late January.

- Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling - Douglas Stewart

No report

- Fairfax Police Youth Club – Becky McNaughton

Getting ready for the 50th Anniversary – Gala on 19th January and Passport/Field House in July. The Committee is getting all the Community involved. The Gala needs extra publicity – can it go in City Clips?

- Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority – Brian Knapp

Asked about the Strategic Plan and was it self-generated?

- Planning Commission – Jennifer Passey

Planning Commission last meeting on Monday was to finalize their report to Council. CIP public hearing turnout was low.

- School Board – Mitch Sutterfield

Erosion problems at Daniels Run and Providence Action has already been taken by Public Works.

- Senior Center – Jane Albro

13. Adjournment: 8:40pm

The next PRAB meeting will take place: Thursday February 14th

Minutes prepared by: Joanna Ormesher, Cultural Arts and Marketing Manager