



ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2018 - 5:30 p.m.
Leawood City Hall – Main Conference Room

Board members in attendance: Chair Karen Ward-Reimer, Amy Vlasic, Lorrie Hamilton, Doug Stevens and Bob Wright

Board Members absent: Steve McGurren, and Gary Swanson

Council Liaison present: Julie Cain

Staff members present: Brian Anderson, April Bishop, Chris Claxton, Kim Curran and Dalnita Holland

Karen Ward Reimer (Chair) called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Amy Vlasic made a motion to approve the November 14, 2017 meeting minutes. Lorrie Hamilton seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Old Business

A. Status of Art Piece for Greenway- Michael Stutz “Woman”

April reported that the arts council approved the purchase of the art from artist Michael Stutz and it is scheduled to go before the council for approval next month. Construction is expected to take 6 to 9 months with a fall dedication anticipated.

Chris stated she couldn't remember what was done in regards to naming the Jorge Blanco pieces.

April commented “walking woman” is not the name of the piece. It is just a placeholder. Blanco submitted several names for consideration and the kids voted. Haven't decide about the naming contest it but will probably be similar.

Chris added the other piece (“Dancers”) is on the Council's agenda for February 5th. It didn't need the Board approval since it will not be on park property.

April reported needing to execute the contract and approve the agreement with the installer for “Dancers”. It will be located just north of City Hall across the bridge.

Chris stated she had talked with Dave Ley the Public Works Interim Director today. He still needs the third quote back for installation and site prep costs.

B. Update of Transfer of Land – Village of Old Leawood

Chris reported that Councilmember Filla has had conversation with some of the residents regarding any progress on the donated land. The City still doesn't own the land and there hasn't been any activity yet. David Ley reported the need to finish improvements to storm water and streets. Other improves need to be made before the land is transferred. If the board

gets any questions, they will know how to answer. Obviously, without owning the property will not be going forward with any of our intended improvements. The developer still has some work to do. One house is up, two other foundations are in, and looks like a third foundation is getting ready to pour.

Council Liaison Cain asked if they were specs or have they sold. The north side are all models. She asked if anything was being done on the south cul-de-sac. She thought one of the lots had sold.

Chris commented that makes sense those three have foundations. The form truck was there in one of the other cul-de-sacs last week but there weren't any sold signs.

Bob asked where is the Village of Old Leawood.

Chris responded the Old Leawood Country Club, at 89th Street and Sagamore Road. The department needs to keep up on what is going on. When and if we get the transfer, needs to fit into our calendar of events.

C. Sign Post for Ironwoods Park Entrance

Brian stated the base of the signpost was in before Christmas. Staff being off for the holidays and weather caused a short delay in pouring the concrete and completion.

Chris added the Arti Gras sign will be the first one to display.

April continued everyone will have the same size banner giving it a uniform look. Also, now can display two banners at one time.

Chair Ward-Reimer asked if banners replaced every year because of the dates. Are they expensive?

Chris responded that vendors have the ability to make signs that can take a date change so we do not always need new signs every year.

Lorrie suggested maybe events that occur yearly in the same month could reuse banners. Leave the number of the month blank and then could stencil it on the sign. It should work.

Chris stated that this was done with the 37 recirculation signs used this year. We will be able to change the date and reuse again.

D. Update on New Event – Stride N' Ride

Chris reported a small committee has been meeting every couple of weeks. Those involved are Jacinta Tolinos Program & Facilities Supervisor, Kim, Brian and herself. They are partnering with Phil Goff and Karry Rood from the Police Department. The group is getting ready to finalize everything. The date is set for June 9th at City Park from 9 to 1. It is called Stride N' Ride and considered a family event. DJ is providing background music instead of a live band performance. The purpose is for people to be active participates in the event. Three food trucks will have a variety of healthy food choices serving smoothies, etc. One provides organic natural ingredients for snow cones, another smoothies, etc. A kiosk showing the north bike loop will be located by the pool's south parking. A bike rodeo for younger kids will be part of the event in a closed off parking lot. The tweens may not want to do the rodeo but can ride the mountain bike trail. A scavenger hunt will promote walking

with prizes for participation. Brian has arranged Free State BMX to perform at the end of the event.

Brian added Bike Walk KC is going to help support and provide bike parking.

Chris reported she is continuing to work on sponsorship opportunities. If reaching out to a hospital, she will contact the new St. Luke's facility at 133 and Stateline.

Chris commented it is good to build new relationships. Depending on the St Luke meeting, she may reach out to Menorah and LL Bean. If the board recalls, we are no longer doing the Labor Day Run and this event will take its' place. More information will be coming out later.

Not an event item but a good time to bring it up. Some of the departments marketing methodology is tired. Doing some revamping with this event and planning to use different avenues at others coming up this year.

E. 2018 Projects

Chris passed out the Parks Master Plan Project List

Chris stated she wanted to bring this up now since in February will be going over the Capital Improvement Plan in more detail. The CIP book moves through a five-year period. Kathy Byard the Budget and Finance Manager asked if we wanted to start a conversation about recommendations for Council consideration. Starting in 2021, there is an additional one million dollars each year to convert unfunded to funded projects. She would like the board to look at unfunded projects and make recommendations moving them into years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Chris is not sure about the tunnel improvement project for 2018. It doesn't seem very realistic. It is literally just the tunnel and the trail currently doesn't go anywhere. The plan is to get bid documents out for the pool house renovations out in late fall. The money to do the project is not budgeted 2019. The number right now is only an estimate. Staff discussed earlier today the resurfacing of the tennis courts, which will also be a big project. They are in desperate need of repair, as mentioned during the pickleball discussion at the November meeting. In 2020, we are planning to improve the pond outfall structure at Ironwoods. The location is the east side of pond. The switchback trail goes between the amphitheater and the wooded area behind the cabins. That outfall area has been there for 14 years. It is the only low water crossing and the drainpipe is frequently clogged up.

Still up in the air is the plan for restrooms at North Lake and fields 20 & 21. The options for the buildings are getting better and are an improvement over porta potties even though they still have underground "tanks" that must be emptied by a service.

Amy asked isn't there porta potty there now.

Chris answered yes, but no one really likes them. These are really high tech and larger. Those that have used them said they don't really smell.

Amy added she had used similar ones in Colorado. It does have a strong chemical smell. The larger ones are nice because there is room to assist one or two children.

Brian stated another problem is with vendors. Once the equipment starts getting older or expensive to replace they do not want to provide newer or nicer porta potties due to the flood plain area.

Council Liaison Cain commented we really do need those facilities there.

Chris added yes, especially if traveling on the trail going from City Park all the way to I-Lan. It is quite a stretch.

She would like the Board to make recommendations on the future CIP. Before long, they will be looking at what is going on in 2019. Sometimes things move back, forwards, or take the place of something else on the schedule. Probably 2021 is the most crucial year. Chris asked if anyone had questions.

Lorrie questioned that the trail extension is not on report.

Chris answered it is on there but list as City Hall connection it is second from the bottom. She is not sure if that is a reasonable dollar amount.

Lorrie added that she thinks the extension and tunnel go hand in hand.

Chris stated now that her office is upstairs, she notices several people using the trail north of City Hall but they have to turn around when they discover that it doesn't go anywhere. Many are coming from the hotel, apartments, or Edgewood.

Amy asked about Ironwoods parking lot addition is that to make it bigger. Does the Lodge need more parking?

Chris stated several years ago, you might remember that we looked at adding 29 spots at the south end of the lot. The area would cut into the hillside between by maintenance building and the Nature Center. This doesn't sound like a lot, but by adding these additional spots another 50 to 70 people can be accommodated. The big part of the estimated \$450,000 is reflective of the need for utility relocations.

Chair Ward-Reimer asked where the vestibule area at the Lodge is.

Chris responded it is where you first walk in. That front area needs redesigning and enclosing. What happens particularly when it is cold, the door opens and the cold air takes over a third of the building. Not really a design flaw but after you used the building over time can think of things that are needed.

Lorrie added it would be an improvement.

Amy stated it would be a good idea. She attended a wedding in Iowa during subzero temperatures. The place didn't have a vestibule and it was horrible when the door opened. She can see why that would be helpful.

Brian asked if the trail project from the Dog Park to College Boulevard is something that needs adding.

Chris commented the need to talk to Jill Geller, the Director of Johnson County Parks, about previous money used to purchase land. She will be at the Kansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference this month. The same funding might be available for trails and other items. Municipalities within the county would submit to them for funding.

If Brian sees Linda Lanterman, State Wildlife, Parks and Tourism director, he should ask if they might have some money. Chris asked Brian to get an estimate for the cost of concrete.

Lorrie stated that is just an improvement to the path that is already there. Not really a path but a road.

Brian stated currently a good rock base access exist from the College to the culvert before the dog park. Might need to put in one or two storm pipes. Brian suggested in the bike plan to complete it as a pedestrian and bike trail. It helps accommodate people at the nearby office park and from Hallbrook. A sidewalk by Overbrook Road provides an entrance.

Chair Ward-Reimer asked if the list was prioritized before.

Chris responded we haven't went over the unfunded projects. Chris and April are currently working on the art CIP revisions now. She is thinking about moving the Roe Avenue tunnel out to 2020.

Chair Ward-Reimer asked the Board to look over the unfunded list and to have their recommendations and ideas together for the February Board meeting.

Chris reported meeting with Wastewater recently and is bringing it up as a point of reference for the second item. The county and not the city owns the land on the west end-fields 11 and 12. This past Monday staff met with representatives JOCO wastewater to get a handle on a timeline for the 3-year project. They want to start doing some public outreach. One thing they are doing sooner than later is closing a section of trail in April. The section is over the bridge that runs along Lee Boulevard going west to Mission Road. There will be an easy alternative detour.

Brian added the detour leaves City Park crosses the trail bridge comes underneath College Boulevard and then will go back north. One can still use the trail south of the plant.

Lorrie added the detour goes behind the sewage plant instead of in front.

Brian stated Wastewater plans to close Lee Boulevard for a short time in a couple of years.

Chris reported they are going to raise Lee Boulevard 12 feet west from the current entrance to the plant. It is really a significant project. Wastewater is working with us on public notification information.

Chair Ward-Reimer asked is that the only way into the park.

Chris stated the shutdown would be for a very short time. A power substation was another recently added piece of the project. Right now, there is a retention pond. It will be removed in order to put in the substation. Wastewater will be working with Kansas City Power and Light on the substation.

Lorrie asked is the substation just for the sewage plant.

Chris answered no. The Mayor did ask about that and it is not just for the Wastewater. Chris understands only 6 % of power will be used for the plant. A two miles radius from the substation could also see a benefit, according to the wastewater representatives.

Council Liaison Cain comments she didn't know that Chris was in dialog with Wastewater. The treatment plant is only processing 40% of the flow and the other 60% goes on to Kansas City, Missouri. Twenty plus buildings will be going in and it will increases the current site

by two thirds. She would like to see the buildings be more harmonious with nature, blending in with the park. It is important how it looks in the winter especially when the leaves are gone.

Lorrie commented it is a sewage treatment plant and a needed required function. Yes, it needs to blend into the parks surroundings.

Chris added the towers for the substation are very tall.

Council Liaison Cain stated they have been very kind and generous with interact meetings. They are a public utility who have went over and above procedure to include Council. She is very grateful they are asking for their input.

Brian added they do not maintain their area inside the fence or their surrounding property. Their lack of maintenance encroaches on the trail. People complain to Parks about weeds and trees growing through the fence along the trail. His staff many times maintains their property.

Chris added she would like to see better landscaping along the fence line. Anything there has died and never been replaced. The fence is leaning and consistently has storm debris entangled in it.

Lorrie commented the need to make a commitment to maintaining that land.

Doug stated as a part of their submission or rendering they would need to have those things included.

Amy asked is that the area where it floods.

Brian stated raising the road causes a need to accommodate the water run off that was normally in the street. Overflow soil between the plant from Lee all the way down to Mission will be built up. The excess water is going to dump out by our trail bridge. When the water gets up it will back up into the creek and slowly drain back out. It is natural swale.

Amy asked if it has gone through planning and already approved.

Council Liaison Cain said she would like to have the park board see the plans.

Chris stated she would scan the plans and email to the board. Staff originally met with Wastewater two years ago. She reached out to them and met with them recently about their timeline, as it will have an impact on the park activities. There is now an opportunity to talk with them about maintaining property and landscaping.

Brian added now it will be a larger and higher level of landscaping. Traditionally Wastewater didn't have manpower to maintain area. Parks mows some of the area outside the fence just to make sure it look nice on Lee.

Council Liaison Cain commented now is a good time to drive down to the area and see how it looks now.

Lorrie added she would like to see the renderings.

Brian stated on a positive note the water will better for the irrigation pond inside the park; not creating as much algae. Another plus is a group of trees will remain and be preserved.

II. New Business

A. 2018 Council Liaison

Chris reported congratulation are in order to Council Liaison Cain and others sworn in last night. Now, the Mayor will make a new appointment to replace Dr. Kaster for the Park Board. Councilmember Chuck Sipple will added as liaison to Parks. The new Councilmember, Mary Larson, will serve on the Ironhorse Advisory Committee.

B. Staff Reports

Brian reported the following:

- Staff is still cleaning up flood debris and repairing underneath Mission Road restoring area by adding rock
- Peeled silt off the rocks that left on the trail at Stateline and City Park. The area is now regraded and staff is using dirt to fill in at other places.
- Started cutting ornamental grass
- Shipping containers scheduled for delivered in the next 2 weeks. The delivery will be on site- one at City Park and another two at Ironwoods. The weather might cause a delay leveling the area. Gravel will need to go down for a base.

Bob asked the need for the containers.

Brian answered they will be used for storage space. Currently at Ironwoods, the small pieces of equipment are just sitting out. The flood washed away all of the storage for the department.

Chair Ward-Reimer asked is everything offsite from the flood area at 103rd and Stateline Road.

Brian answered yes, everything that we kept has moved. Only the salvage items are still there in open-air buildings. He has contacted the salvagers but they haven't picked up yet.

Amy asked what they are going to do with the building.

Brian stated he is going to be meeting next week with the county disaster relief team. The meeting will also include the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Dave Ley, Dave Williams, the Fire Chief and Julie Stasi, Public Works Administrative Service Manager. Afterwards we will have a better understanding on what we qualify to receive.

Brian continued reporting.

- The retaining wall that failed and was rebuilt on College Boulevard in 2017 didn't have a landscaping budget. The finishing landscaping touches are now left up to Parks. Brian is going to work with David Ley to get contractors to install a fence at the top. Then there will be decorative rock at the top that needs to go back about 13 feet wide. A geogrid holds the wall back at different levels. Rock should be ok. We do not want something that would require a lot of maintenance. It is similar to the rock used in the parking lot islands at the Justice Center. Using that, with a weed fabric, a staff member could spray with Roundup to keep the weeds out

Chris asked about the pipes that are laying down there. She thought that they were going in on the north side.

Brian answered Water One is putting in a waterline extension through there on that side.

Kim reported the following:

- Program Guide changes are due this week
- Staff is busy planning activities now through July and taking care of most of summer activities
- Daddy Daughter Date Night is February 3. Doing a desert bar and dancing again this year. BRGR and Red Door Grill are working with Tony to offer dinner specials for the dads and daughters before the dance.
- Soccer enrollment deadline is at the end of January and staff is seeing a jump in enrollment
- Thirty-two lifeguard applications have been turned in so far and Tony is in the process of hiring summer staff
- Staff is working on a Park Passport Program, hoping to kick it off at the Eggstravagnza. People can earn stamps by visiting events, facilities and parks. People can turn in completed passports to City Hall for prizes.
- Changing it up and not doing the Duck Derby this year. Instead replacing it with a Cardboard Regatta at the pool in June. Teams build boats out of corrugated cardboard, along with duct tape, and try to get across the pool. The prizes categories will be best boat, fastest, and titanic. Something to bring new life to the program. Not like anything done before at the pool.

April reported the following:

- Excited about the new public art pieces going in that were mentioned earlier
- This year Arti Gras accepted 93 artist with 125 different pieces to display at the Lodge at the opening night reception on February 16th. The cost is \$20, which includes beverages, hors d'oeuvres, and music. It should be a fun evening. The event continues with the opportunity to view and buy pieces through the weekend. The end of this week one can view the available art on Leawood's website highlighting the show. Scroll down the Arti Gras page to gallery for previewing.

Lorrie stated that she will be glad to volunteer for Arti Gras.

Chris commented it was a week ago that April, David Hazen with Leawood Arts Council, the juror Mike Dean from Leawood Fine Art and Chris went through all the entries. It is always different and there are some new artists participating this year.

April continued her report:

- Stage Company is getting ready for a big season this year. It is the 20th anniversary and we are doing some new things- A Season of "Shows with Purpose". A fund raising tie in with every production that gives back to the community. She is reaching out to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce when doing *West Side Story*. The fundraiser will benefit Puerto Rico hurricane relief efforts.
- Auditions for the entire season will be the 1st weekend of March. If you know anyone who wants to sing and dance please send them out.
- "Bark!" the musical will be making its Kansas City premier, September 7th - 9th. The storyline follows six dogs at Doggie Daycare. Humans play canines but do not walk

around on all fours. A fundraiser for Leawoof and other local nonprofit dog agencies will be part of the musical. Attendees can even bring their dogs to the performance.

Kim stated receiving a tweet right before the meeting started. The Kansas City Dog Club shared the nomination of Leawoof as best Dog Park. Not sure how to vote.

Chris reported the following:

- The Lunar New Year Dinner will be February 18. In years past, the committee has had to turn away people so this year it will be at Vista 154. It provides a bigger venue than Blue Koi. Bolings will be doing the catering. Betty Munson is on top of everything and Julie Berger from the Police Department always does such a good job.
- Carla Lewis, one of the Animal control Officers, is interested in a dog and jog in June. Chris suggested doing it in September and as a tie in with “Bark!” at Ironwoods.
- The Foundation is meeting on Thursday. This year marks Leawood’s 70th anniversary. At first, they were going to wait for the 75th. Alice Hawk contacted Chris about doing something this year, but it doesn’t need to be big.
- The Leawood Police Department is trying to get more involved in community events. We will be collaborating with them bringing back the fishing derby. We always enjoy working with their department.

Lorrie asked if it includes fly-fishing. She suggested Chris should contact Scheels.

Chris commented that she does want to meet with them and is going to take Officer Phil Goff with her.

III. Misc.

Brian noted the Mayor had sent a link to an article and pictures taken in City Park and on the trail. A walker had taken pictures of a wide variety of birds published in the Shawnee Mission Post. It was the first time he knew about a bald eagle at the park.

Chris added that she would send out a link for the pictures.

IV. Next scheduled Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held February 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the Maple Room of the Community Center.

Bob Wright made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Lorrie Hamilton seconded the motion the motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director

DRAFT