



ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes – August 14th, 2018 - 5:30 p.m.
Leawood City Hall- Maple Room

Board members in attendance: Chair Karen Ward-Reimer, Lorrie Hamilton, Gary Swanson, Steve McGurren, and Bob Wright

Board Members absent: Amy Vlasic and Kim Galbraith

Council Liaisons present: Chuck Sipple and Julie Cain

Staff members present: Brian Anderson, April Bishop, Chris Claxton, Kim Curran, and Camille Sumrall

Bob Wright called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

Bob Wright made a motion to approve the July 10, 2018 meeting minutes.

Steve moved the motion and Lorrie seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

I. Old Business

A. Update on August 6th Council Work Session- 96th and Lee Park

Chris stated that there is no official City Council decision on the future of the old fire station. Three council members favored taking the station down while two would like consideration for saving some portion and two were undecided. There is an interest in using the old fire station bays and converting them into a shelter for the future park. There was discussion on keeping the station as is and letting the Parks and Recreation Staff use the building for classes and programming. It is likely not an option to staff the old fire station full time. There will be meeting space in the new fire station that could suffice for any meeting room needs for the public.

Bob asked if there were any council members advocating to keep the old fire station up.

Council Liaison Cain responded yes, there are several people who are advocating keeping the entire building or advocating keeping aspects of the building up.

Council Liaison Sipple added that there is no formal vote taken at work sessions but rather to gather a general consensus from the council on how to move forward. He added that the purpose of the work session was to determine how much of the space can be used for public park space including or not including old buildings.

Council Liaison Cain stated she did not think the total area was particularly small. She stated she wished there were aerial pictures provided at the work session as well as estimated cost to keep the original bays.

Steve asked if there is a deadline in place to decide on the future of the old buildings.

Council Liaison Sipple stated that the City Administrator would like to get moving on the project as soon as possible and that there would likely be another work session soon.

Chris continued her report and stated that the City Administrator directed herself and David Ley, Public Works director, to meet with several structural engineers to discuss possible options for the old fire station. They discussed taking down the walls of the old fire station and turning it into a shelter. Both engineers advised that taking down walls will compromise the strength of the structure because the roof is very heavy. It may be better to build a new small shelter rather than saving the old fire station bays and converting them in to a shelter and while not impossible, would likely be costly.

Chris stated she and David Ley will engage Jeff DeGasperi to consult on the project; he is a specialist in the construction of fire stations, having done the design work for the new fire station number one. He will be able to give additional insight on options for the buildings and what the cost of each might be. She may also reach out to Strata Architecture, who has done work on the Liberty Memorial and other national and regional parks. She reminded the group that after the new fire station is built there will only be 1.7 acres including parking for a new park. All the amenities in the future park will drive up the need for parking. In order to start grading the land for the new fire station to be built, City Council must make a decision on the future of the old fire station. There are several factors including the decision on the old fire station, which create a domino effect in the project and need to be decided soon.

Council Liaison Cain agreed that if it were more cost effective to build a new shelter, rather than converting the old fire station, she would support building a new shelter. If the cost of building a new shelter versus keeping the old fire station were similar, she would like to see the old fire station saved.

Bob asked if the meeting room that is planned to be in the new fire station would affect park designated parking. He stated that if citizens were simultaneously using a shelter, the potential old fire station meeting room, and the new fire station meeting room, parking would be an issue.

Council Liaison Cain stated she thought that the use of the meeting rooms would probably be limited so it would only affect parking a few times a year.

Chris stated that the fire station will have its own parking and it should accommodate people using the meeting space in the new fire station. This issue needs to be discussed with Degaspri as well.

Council Liaison Cain added that there is a required fence around most of the perimeter of the new fire station, which may block park users from parking in the new fire station lot.

Steve asked if the new fire station and its parking is about 45% of the available property.

Bob responded that the new fire station will use about 1.3 out of the three acres.

Chris added that old city hall is 1,120 square feet and the bays of the fire station are about 1,090 square feet. Since the two buildings are so similar in size, they would not look out of place sitting next to each other if the Council decided to save any portion of the old fire station.

Council Liaison Cain added old city hall will be on a slab because the restrooms are not ADA accessible. She stated because of its small size the only use for it realistically would be a museum.

Bob asked if there was a demand from citizens for more meeting space

Council Liaison Sipple stated he did not think there was much demand for meeting space, but the potential new meeting space would be more convenient for residents who live North of 435 highway.

Steve asked if the park area would be approximately an acre after parking is designated.

Lorrie stated she thought it was less than an acre for usable park space.

Chris referenced a 2015 document from Joe Johnson, former Leawood Public Works Director that estimated to move old city hall elsewhere on the site would cost around \$160,000, factoring in approximate inflation, but does not include any refurbishment inside or outside.

Steve asked if anyone had considered what the cost would be to build a replica of old city hall.

Bob asked who was in favor of keeping old city hall versus the old fire station.

April stated that the Historic Commission would probably be fine with keeping either or both of the historic buildings. There may be money available from historic building grants; Strata Architecture has information on these grants. The historic commission was gifted \$4,000 by the Leawood Woman's Club to use for display cases if old city hall is turned in to a museum.

Chris stated that the historic commission will need to provide a list of the historic items they have to be displayed in order to ensure there are enough items to display and rotate through for exhibits. This has been brought to their attention at several Historic Commission meetings.

B. Update on Completion of Public Art [Michael Stutz] Tomahawk Greenway

April informed the group Michael is working diligently on this project. The maquette has been made and he plans to install the piece in November. He will come to Leawood for the installation and the dedication.

Council Liaison Cain asked how the model will be styled.

April responded she will be wearing a t-shirt and shorts with a ponytail. He will send updates as he is working.

C. Update on Adopt-A-Trail Program

Chris informed the group that the Adopt-A-Trial information is located the Fall/Winter Program Guide. We are working on developing forms and procedures right now and should be starting shortly. We are planning to have trail adoptees clean the trail a minimum of two times a year. The program will be a yearlong commitment for participants.

D. Drive 55 Trips

Chris stated we have had a great response to the program and people are very excited. Since we don't have a minimum number of spots to fill, this is a great low risk program for us to offer to Leawood Residents. We are planning to offer several more trips this spring to exciting locations like The Pioneer Woman's Mercantile and Magnolia Market at the Silos.

II. New Business

A. Staff Reports

Brian reported the following:

- Tennis court resurfacing project at Leawood City Park is in progress.
- Staff is working on trail cleanup and ongoing routine maintenance.
- Water truck has been delivered and is making watering much easier for crew.
- Budget request in 2019 approved for South Bike Loop, the route is yet to be determined.
- Bike wash station at I-Lan to be installed in the next several weeks.

Chris reported the following

- Hound Happy Hour will be on September 14, at Leawood Dog Park, from 5:30-7:30 PM. \$10 per person includes libations and snacks.
- Leawood Fishing Derby will take place on September 29, at the North Lake, from 8:30-10:30 AM, this is a free event.
- The annual Doggie Dunk will take place on September 4, at the Leawood Aquatic Center, from 4-7 PM.

Kim reported the following:

- Food Truck Festival at Leawood City Park, on Saturday, August 25 from 5:00 -9:00 PM with Cherry Bomb performing live.
- The Aquatic Center is operating on reduced hours for fall.
- Fall Soccer has 1,700 participants enrolled. This is an increase over last year.
- Fall First Tee classes are full and starting this week at Ironhorse.
- Ironwoods Lodge is mid-installation of new audiovisual system.
- Oak Room audiovisual installation starting next week.
- Ironwoods Lodge painting will begin September 3.
- Mill and overlay will begin at Ironwoods Park September 10.

April reported the following:

- Oxford Schoolhouse is still open regular hours until Labor Day, and then will operate at reduced hours.
- Concert series is going well with David Basse Trio up next. KC Latin Jazz All- Stars and Hard@Play still to come.

- Bark the Musical will run September 7-9 at Ironwoods Park and The Lodge at Ironwoods Park. Saturday, September 8 is the Bark in the Park Event in conjunction with animal control. The event will feature vendors, fun activities, and contests for dogs and owners along with Bark the Musical being performed at 11:00 AM.

III. Next scheduled Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11th at 5:30 p.m. at the Leawood Community Center in the Maple Room

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Lorrie seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director