



ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes – December 11th, 2018 - 5:30 p.m.
Ironhorse Golf Club- Vista 154

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

Board members absent: Kim Galbraith

Council liaisons present: Chuck Sipple

Council liaisons absent: Julie Cain

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

Chair Karen Ward-Reimer called the meeting to order at 5:45pm.

Amy made a motion to approve the November 11th, 2018 meeting minutes.

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

I. Old Business

A. Update on RFP Process for 96th and Lee

Chris informed the group that the Committee has met and discussed several new options for the RFP for 96th and Lee. The RFP has been revised and will be sent back out to the original 2018 submitters. Revisions included the addition of one to two possible charrettes with the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and the Governing Body, as well as the addition of three optional plans for the site:

1. Keeping only former city hall
2. Keeping the old fire station #1 and former city hall
3. Keeping only old fire station #1

Steve asked if the City Council had decided officially to keep the former city hall. It was his understanding that was a concrete decision.

Council Liaison Sipple responded that several members of City Council felt that the fire station had more historical significance because it served as the original city hall; therefore, it became the third plan option on the RFP.

Chris responded that several factors went into keeping only the fire station as an option for the site and those include: the historical significance of the former fire station, being that it served as the original city hall, it would not necessarily have to be moved and it would possibly be less expensive. She added that the original RFP that was sent out on February

8, 2018. There were eleven responses from the following businesses: Landworks Studio, Indigo Design, Confluence, RDG Planning, SWT Design, Vireo, Land3 Studio, BBN, Land Plan Engineering, Plaid Collaborative and Bartlett and West. They had previously narrowed the submittals down to five frontrunner but no contract was ever awarded as the work sessions were inconclusive as to what the final park should include as to existing buildings.

The previous RFP only had one option for the site, which was keeping the former city hall and possibly keeping a portion of the fire station. The RFP's that were submitted had a price range of approximately \$10,000.00 to \$50,0000.00 so it was quite a spread between the eleven submittals. The new RFP submittals are due by January 17, 2019.

Chris read a section of the RFP to clarify what the applicants will need to provide:

“SPECIAL NOTE: If selected, the professional should be prepared to discuss the pros and cons of each design. Through the master planning process, the City needs to determine what amenities/services/features are the highest priority and recommend the best option based upon these findings.

Despite several community meetings and Governing Body work sessions, no clear consensus has been determined for the best use of the property as a park. This is the reason the City has asked for three (3) preliminary designs as a part of this project.”

Karen asked if the committee will narrow down the submittals to the best five then bring their choices to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to narrow down the final three choices. Karen asked if the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will then make a recommendation to the Governing Body on whichever firm we choose to proceed with.

Steve asked if we would need to have a recommendation by March.

Chris responded that they are hoping City Council will award a contract in April. The timeline to complete the scope of work is between June 1, 2019 through September 1, 2019 and the timeline for final design and initiation of construction of the park will be between February 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

Amy asked when construction on the new fire station will begin.

Chris responded that the cell towers on the property will not come down until July of 2019; it will begin once the towers have come down.

Steve asked how long it will take to build the fire station.

Council Liaison Sipple responded approximately 2 years.

Karen added that while the new fire station is being built the old fire station still needs to be a working fire station.

New Business

A. Recommendation from Arts Council on Placement of Art Piece “Inspiration” – Rita Blitt, Artist

April informed the group that the city has an opportunity to acquire and install a sculpture created by Rita Blitt, who is a local, female, sculptor and Leawood Resident. The piece is

currently located in front of a bank at Hillcrest and Bannister road. The current owner of the piece is willing to donate the piece to the City, pending the regular approval process from the city. The art in public places has selected a location at the southeast corner of College and Tomahawk Creek Parkway on the greenway. The height of the piece is approximately 28 feet high and would sit back from the road about 75 feet. This piece could be a great fit for the area because of its size. The piece would need to be restored and will be probably be painted a bright yellow or whatever the artist recommends. The Arts Council will be paying for restoration and installation costs. Because of the proposed location on the greenway, the piece must have location approval of the Park Board. It will then go to the Planning Commission and then to the City Council.

Karen asked if when the piece is restored, would be powdered coated.

April stated that the company that originally restored it 30 years ago would restore it again. It has not had any maintenance in 30 years and still looks good considering.

Steve asked if that area floods often.

Council Liaison Sipple responded that the area does flood some, but hopefully the piece will sit up high and it is fairly flood resistant due to the openings in the piece.

Chris asked the committee for a recommendation to accept the piece.

Bob made a motion to accept the recommended location of the piece, Amy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

April added that we are also now in the process of accepting the Kwan Wu piece “Women of the World”. More to come on the new location and donation process of that piece.

Chris added that we will need to issue a new public art guide soon, especially one that focuses on the sculpture garden between College and 119th street.

Karen asked if there is a register for cities with great public art. Is there some kind of designation such as a “Sculpture City”?

Chris responded she will check in to it.

Staff Reports

Brian reported the following:

- City Park Pond flood improvement project bids came in higher than the original estimate of \$130,000.00. The lowest bid was approximately \$290,000.00. We are requesting increasing obligated funding from FEMA and revisiting and possibly reducing project costs. We are hopeful to have the project start in early 2019 and finished summer of 2019. There is an 18-month period that FEMA requires the work to be completed in and that started in November 2018.
- Ironwoods Park road resurfacing project is still progressing with concrete work. It is still too cold to do the asphalt resurfacing.

Chris reported the following

- The Leawood Foundation received the award from KRPA for the top Civic Organization based on their fundraising and park projects. They will receive the award at the Conference in Hutchinson the first week of February.

- Dustin Branick was named 2018 employee of the year. We are all very happy for him for receiving the recognition.
- Thank you to all Park and Recreation Advisory Board Committee members for all of their commitment and hard work over the past year.

Kim reported the following:

- Breakfast with Santa was held on December 8, at the Lodge at Ironwoods with 335 participants, which is up from last year.
- Staff is compiling information for the 2019 Spring/Summer program guide.
- July 4th event planning has commenced.
- Lifeguard interviews are starting.

April reported the following:

- Oxford School had the final event of the year on December 8: Holiday Traditions on The Prairie.
- Leawood Stage Company Orchestra is performing this Sunday at Union Station at 3 pm.
- Interviews for 2019 Leawood Stage Company Production Directors will take place this Saturday.
- Romance theme art show will be happening in conjunction with Leawood Stage Company production of “The Man Who Came to Dinner”, which will open on Valentine’s Day.

II. Next scheduled Meeting Date

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 8th at 5:30 p.m. in the Maple Room in the Leawood Community Center.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Steve seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Claxton, Parks and Recreation Director