



## **Mission Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission Meeting Minutes Monday, August 19, 2019**

The City of Mission Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission met in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. due to the Community Center being closed for annual maintenance.

In attendance: Mark Raduziner (Ward IV), Anne O’Leary (Ward I), Karin Capron (Ward II), Jacque Gameson (Ward IV), Mary Funk (Ward IV), and Deborah Rushing (Ward III), Nick Schlossmacher (City Council Liaison), and Hillary Parker Thomas (City Council Liaison). City Administrator Laura Smith and Administrative Supervisor Kathy Lockard represented staff.

Absent: Melissa Currie (Ward II)

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

### **Approval of May 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

A correction was offered, “This brings the current committee membership down to either six members.”

Anne O’Leary moved and Jacque Gameson seconded to approve the minutes as amended. **Minutes were approved as amended (5-0).**

### **Update on Director’s Search**

Laura advised the Committee that the position had been offered to Penn Almoney who is currently working for the City of Springville, Utah. Penn’s appointment will be confirmed by the City Council on August 21, and his anticipated start date is September 12. Penn brings nearly 20 years of experience in Parks and Recreation and we are excited to be able to introduce him to the PRT and the community next month.

### **Debrief from Mission Summer Family Picnic**

The Committee took an opportunity to review and debrief the Mission Summer Family Picnic that was held on July 6 in Broadmoor Park.

Comments included:

- Concern that we ran out of soda too early
- The Water One Hydration Station was not utilized because people did not bring cups. If it is used again next year provide paper cups not plastic for sustainability
- Re-evaluate Kona Ice. Took a long time to get to the truck once you were in line;
- Fireworks were fantastic and the new space was great. Had a professional company this year for the fireworks. Suggest to possibly set the fireworks to music and shorten them a little
- Suggestion that the shifts be shortened and that volunteers are relieved at the end of an assigned shift

Turnout was lower this year, likely due to the fact it was the holiday weekend. Next year's event will be held on Saturday, July 11.

### **Upcoming Program/Events**

Laura and Kathy briefed the Committee on a number of upcoming programs and events.

- Free Family Fun Nights – Are scheduled to begin in October. Laura passed around the sign up sheet for workers for the Free Family Fun Night Events;
- Mission Sunflower Festival is coming up on October 12 – stay tuned for more details. It will be an all day event with a parade, vendors, carnival games and a street dance that evening;
- There are just two weeks left for the Mission Market – this has been a very successful season, with the lowest attendance in the 400's, nearly double the "high" attendance days in prior years.
- Mark mentioned the "Pig Roast" on October 27th that will be hosted at The Welstone. This is a fundraising event for the City of Mission Family Adoption Committee;

### **Maintenance of Trees on Public Property**

Laura advised that the City's 2020 budget is on the agenda for the Council to approve on August 21. That budget includes \$25,000 for tree maintenance, particularly along Shawnee Mission Parkway. The Council will look to the Commission for ideas and discussion on maintenance.

Mark reported that there is a tree on Martway in front of Thai Orchard that is dead and should be addressed.

Jacque reported that there is a disease in the trees on Shawnee Mission Parkway in the green space between Nall and Lamar. The longer we leave the dead trees in the ground the more our tree canopy is in danger. Jacque stated it is a "nematode" that is in the ground and in the roots. Karin requested to put in a different type of tree when they are

replaced so the disease does not attack the same tree.

### **Championship Tree Nominations**

Laura will look for the forms previously submitted. They had been submitted by a patron, not by any of the residents who own the trees.

### **2019 and 2020 Capital Project Updates and Next Steps**

Laura provided an update on the items currently being completed as a part of the annual maintenance at the Community Center. All projects are on schedule and budget and staff will look forward to showing them off to patrons when the facility reopens in September.

#### *Park Entrance Signage*

A packet of sign examples was circulated for the Committee to review. We need to get re-engaged on this discussion, and should try to narrow our focus before inviting any sign companies in to make presentations.

It was suggested that Committee members make some notes on their likes and dislikes of the sign examples presented bring that feedback for discussion at the September meeting.

Once one or two design options have been selected, the Committee will make a recommendation to the Council for review and approval. It was suggested that the "Welcome to Mission" signs be updated as well as a part of the signage project.

The Committee discussed the space/size of signs in each park and staff indicated that the signs will all be scalable. Some on the Committee stated that the sign outside of City Hall looks nice and we could expand that theme/look throughout the parks.

Councilmember Thomas recommends that all the signs be done at the same time to show that we are doing something for each park.

#### *Wayfinding Signage*

We anticipate that Public Works Staff will produce the wayfinding signage in-house. Laura will speak with Public Works Staff on in-house wayfinding signage.

#### *Mohawk Park Restrooms*

Staff has been working to solicit proposals for conceptual design and restroom siting in Mohawk Park. Once proposals are received, they will be reviewed and evaluated so the

project can continue to move toward construction

### Miscellaneous/Other

Staff has received a request for Cricket Ground at Broadmoor Park. This amenity will be included among the ideas to be circulated in the upcoming CIP process.

Councilmember Thomas reported that the Dog Park process has slowed to look at more opportunities due to the grant process not going through this year. Anne suggested the Dog Park Group speak with Roeland Park as there is an area they may be able to use within their city.

### NEU Soccer

Staff continues to discuss Mohawk Park field maintenance with representatives from NEU Soccer. Once he is in place, the new Director will continue those discussions.

## **Purpose and Goals of PRT – Review of 2019/2020 Agenda**

The PRT is committed to having visible and significant progress by the end of 2021. If we can demonstrate we have accomplished something in each park, we expect it might encourage residents to renew the sales tax.

The 2020 CIP Budget includes \$250,000 for the Mohawk Parks restrooms. There is also approximately \$150,000 each year for outdoor park improvements.

It was recommended that the October meeting be targeted for a brainstorming session to work with the new director on items to set the work plan for the coming year;

## **CIP Committee Update**

Nothing to report at this time.

## **Other**

The tree that was planted this year at Waterworks Park needs to be replaced. The Norway Spruce is doing well, and perhaps the dead tree could be replaced with a second Norway Spruce. Once replanted we need to have a specific watering schedule.

Jacque would like to work with a staff member to work on I-tree so she can post information in the Waterworks Park Bulletin Board.

## **Adjournment**

**Mary Funk** moved and **Anne O’Leary** seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried

(5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Faithfully submitted by,

Kathy Lockard  
Administrative Supervisor