



## Mission Parks, Recreation & Tree Commission Meeting Minutes September 21, 2020

The PRT Commission met via zoom on Monday September 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM

In attendance: Mark Raduziner, Anne O'Leary, Jaque Gameson, Karin Capron, Mary Funk, Mary Ryherd, Ben Chociey and Mellissa Currie. Hillary Parker-Thomas - Council Liaison.

Penn Almoney and Kathy Lockard represented staff.

Absent: David Schwenk, Lea Loudon and Nick Schlossmacher - Council Liaison

Terri Baugh, Mission Sustainability Commission - Guest

Mark called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm

### REVIEW:

- **Approve Minutes**

Mary Funk recommended following up the location of the bench at Broadmoor Park, western edge by the shed.

Mary also asked about the option of a bench at Streamway Park. Questioned the concrete bench. Anne O'Leary explained this bench would be more durable.

Under September Parks & Recreation Drive thru event - there was no date at the time of the minutes. Date has now been finalized to October 1st - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm posted in the Mission Newsletter. The time will be extended until 6:00 pm.

**Anne O'Leary** moved to approve the minutes.

**Jaque Gameson** seconded.

**Motion passed 8-0.**

- **Poster Contest winner Council presentation maybe October 21st?**

The Lockard Family has agreed to be present at the meeting via zoom so Kaitlyn can be presented as the winner.

Members of the committee are invited to participate via zoom.

- **Community Center operations update: Brand reveal**

Penn shared information on Community Center attendance numbers. Broke the 300 a day count a couple of days last week.

Starting to move into the slower time of the year, but hope to get to 50% of normal. Most amenities are open now, with walking open in the North Gym by reservation instead of the track. Racquetball, Child Watch, Hoop play and pool lap lanes all available by reservations.

Classes are being offered. Trying to get close to our normal number of classes.

Penn attended the outdoor Zumba class on the tennis courts in Andersen Park a couple of weeks ago and commented that it had a large group of participants.

Most modifications are in place and staff is consistently listening to feedback from members.

Dropping rates for non-membership participants so that all are at 33% markup - Adult Individual and Family will be changed.

Sharing a 10% off membership coupon in the Fall Into Mission packet that will be good from October 1st through November 30th.

Brand reveal - Penn shared the official video with the group.

Shared the official logo and an advertisement that will be going out from the Parks & Recreation Department.

Showed examples of Police, Public Works and Parks & Recreation logos.

Showed cardstock examples with department icons.

Shared examples of the digital signage in the Community Center.

Penn stated he would get t-shirts for the Commission Members with the new branding on them that they can wear to events and change their name badges to the new logo.

Department can now start looking at signage for our parks since we now have the new branding.

Mark is talking about more than the wayfinding signs. Penn commented that there are a few items on the branding tier, this one is not quite on the top of the list.

Hillary hopes that signs would be a big part of the parks.

- **Cork Board Replacement**

New cork boards have been installed in the kiosks at Broadmoor, Waterworks and Andersen Parks. Jacque will make information on the Championship Tree to put in the kiosks.

Jacque and Penn have also worked on information to put in the kiosks.

Penn shared the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant has been submitted.

Participants who submit for the grant are required to commit to using the space for Parks & Recreation and perpetuity and land and park acquisition. The grant can fund up to as high as \$300,000, Penn asked for \$394,000 as a recommendation from the grant committee.

Penn feels like we have a good shot at receiving the grant.

Penn was told there would be a two month timeline on finding out about the grant.

We hope to know by the end of the year if we are awarded some funds.

We could move as quickly as next year to act on the funds. If awarded the grant, we would have up to 12 - 18 months to use the funding.

Jacque thanked Penn for taking the time to put together the 250 page grant.

- **September P&R Community Drive thru event**

This event is scheduled for Thursday, October 1st - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm but will extend to 6:00 pm for patrons to pick up bags.

Terri Baugh asked why it is being done during the day when the parents are home helping their kids with school. Penn explained that the original date was a weekend, but the time did not get changed when the date was changed.

Will start publicizing at 10am-6pm.

The Parks and Recreation department will include a couple of day passes to the center, buy one get one for swim lessons, an activity pack with pumpkin, colored paints and pencils, and candy.

Also we will include a business card asking for people to take a survey on park amenities.

Will push out the information on social media and with signs in the Community Center.

Mary Funk asked if some bags would be held back to give out if people were not able to get them and Penn stated that we do not anticipate running out. Staff is putting together 1000 bags.

- **Trees ordered; still waiting on the Am. Linden (Beverly)**

Trees have been ordered.

The Catalpa tree was ordered from Suburban and will be planted Mon, Oct 26 in Andersen Park, west parking island.

Norway Spruce was ordered from Rosehill and will be planted west of the playground at Andersen Park on Saturday, Sep 26.

Honey Locust was ordered from Rosehill and will be planted south of the walking trail in the middle of the park at Broadmoor Park on Sat, Sep 26.

Bald Cypress was ordered from Rosehill and will be planted where the previous Bald Cypress died on the south west edge of the walking trail at Waterworks Park on Sat, Sep 26.

Celebration Tree was ordered by Stacy Krieg for the passing of her husband. The River Birch was ordered from Rolling Meadows and will be planted Thu, Oct 15 at the south east corner of Mohawk Park. The plaque was ordered through SignPro.

Rosehill and Suburban don't have an American Linden and Penn is waiting to hear back from Rolling Meadows. (Beverly Park).

The trees will be planted by the nurseries and they will come with a guarantee.

Jacque asked to get some publicity in the Mission Magazine. Mark will ask if that is possible.

A photo of the new Pearl Harbor monument sign will be in the November issue of the Mission Magazine.

## **DISCUSSION:**

- **Mission Parks Tour - Streamway Park**

Penn shared the information on the comments made from members on Streamway.

Mary Ryherd asked since KDOT owns the park - how does Mission take care of it? Penn stated that the City takes care of the park and if we want to make any improvements we just need to reach out to KDOT.

Mary Funk stated that the hardest part is finding the park. Mark stated that the Wayfinding signs will help with that.

Anne O'Leary stated that the comments under her name were not what she sent in, but she asked how the park is being maintained. Lots of bushes and a cliff that used to have a chain link fence overlooking Metcalf, but the fence is gone and probably needs to be made a safer area.

Anne would like the park to be promoted as a natural area.

Mary Funk stated that there is lots of deadwood that needs to be removed. Mary Ryherd agreed.

Mary Funk stated that there was poison ivy on the trail and dogs were on the trail, being controlled by their owners, but not enough signs asking patrons to pick up after their dogs.

Mellissa Currie stated that it is such a beautiful space and we just need to get it cleaned up and how do we prompt that moving forward.

Jacque asked if there has ever been a traffic survey done to find out how many people are driving into that park, so we can weigh in on how many people are using the park.

Penn stated that it has not been done, but said that was a good idea. Jacque just suggested that a counter be put on the entrance in some way.

Anne stated that lots of people from the apartments use that park.

Mark suggested sending out a survey to find out how many people are using the park and where they live.

Anne recommended just making the park looking better should invite more usage. Mary Funk suggested just cleaning it up and making it look safer.

Anne stated that we need to do more work on the trails, especially the trail that is connected from the apartments.

Can we make it more of a natural trail instead of a park? The name Streamway Park does not define what it is.

It is not a park as in the rest of the parks, it does not have any type of play equipment.

Mary Ryherd stated that parks come in lots of shapes and sizes.

Mellissa Currie suggested promoting the park so it is more inviting. Possibly change the name to let people know what type of park it is.

Anne does not think we need to rebrand it to use it better, just a better way to share the park with patrons. Anne stated that it is used every day by joggers.

Terri Baugh uses the park to walk as she lives in that area. She does not think of it as a park where she would take her grandchildren. She likes the idea of making it more of a nature center. Try to find a way to keep the puddling off the trails.

Mellissa Currie likes the idea of a nature center as well. Feels like that is a good name for it.

Jacque also agrees that we need to promote the different footprints from bobcats, racoons, etc.

Streamway Nature Park was suggested. Keep the name park, but more of a nature area. Mary Ryherd suggested adding back in the nature walk signage to the trails. The signage would need to be redone.

Jacque stated that the previous signs were a scout project.

Karin suggested cleaning up the park and making note of what needs to be cleaned up in the future.

Ben Chociej stated that it is definitely a connectivity problem; finding the park and getting into it.

Anne stated that she feels like keeping the trash picked up is a problem in all the parks.

Anne would also like to note that off of Nall Park in Roeland Park is a Mountain biking trail and maybe Streamway Park could be a mountain biking trail.

More discussion on the type of park - nature trail, park, etc.

Just adding the name Nature - Streamway Nature Park.

Members are very excited about the potential of this park.

Celebrate that it is being used and get in touch with nature.

Ben provided the following information regarding the park. The apartment complex adjacent to Streamway Park was platted in 1985 as Woodland Village. At that time the western edge of Woodland Village was the US 69 Hwy right-of-way. The land to the west was later dedicated to the Interstate Highway system and 69 Hwy was removed. Some time after 1985, the easement was granted for the park access road.

Penn, Laura Smith and Public Works staff will be meeting within the next couple of weeks to discuss the maintenance in all the Parks.

Mary Funk feels like it has been very informative to focus on one park a month.

Mark asked if KDOT would be willing to donate any money to help with Streamway Park.

Penn will follow up.

- **Regional Signage Plan**

Members discussed wayfinding which is ways on how to find the parks.

If we can only fund one or two signs, which parks do we want to fund first?

After discussion it was decided to focus on:

Powell Community Center and MFAC (Mission Family Aquatic Center).

Shawnee Mission Parkway off of Lamar due to the amount of traffic.

Johnson Drive and Lamar due to the amount of traffic.

Do we want multiple sites on a sign? Penn stated that may be a discussion for later.

This discussion now is to find out where to put the signs.

- **Bioswail at Broadmoor Park et al.**

Tabled for meeting in October.

Penn shared the calendar so everyone could see it.

Spooky Walk - Streamway Park - Friday, October 2nd - 6-8pm.  
Jenny asked for volunteers to dress up and volunteer at the event.  
Mellissa and Michael Currie will email Jenny - they are interested.  
Karin Capron and Mary Funk will also volunteer and follow up with Jenny.  
Terri Baugh and Alexa Penney from Sustainability will volunteer.  
Jenny will follow up with volunteers.

Mark asked about the Tree City USA application time frame. Penn shared that it will be in November and we will talk about it at a later date.

Jacque shared the following information regarding an upcoming tree seminar:

**Dennis Patton, Johnson County/K-State Research and Extension Agent featured speaker at seminar titled “Recommended Trees that thrive in the Kansas City area.”**  
**Pre-register at <http://www.johnson.k-state.edu/classes-events/index.html>.**  
**Once you sign up you will receive the Zoom link via email.**  
**The event is free and there will be time for questions during the seminar.**

As Mark stated—Dennis is fabulous!

Next meeting will be October 19th at 6pm via Zoom.

Next park discussion will be Andersen Park.

October agenda - Repair of parks playground equipment.  
Jacque Gameson wanted to discuss the Mission Bowl Apartments dog park proposal. Ben Chociej will ask a representative to attend the meeting.

**Mary Funk** moved to adjourn the meeting.

**Mary Ryherd** seconded.

**Motion carried 8-0.**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:37 pm

Faithfully submitted by Kathy Lockard, Administrative Supervisor