

PARKS, RECREATION + TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2024

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

The Parks, Recreation + Tree (PRT) Commission met at the Powell Community Center (PCC) on Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Chair Nicole Sullivan, Vice-Chair Sarah Emanuels, Commission Members: Dustin Wolfe, Katie Anderson, Sarah Grittmann, Angela Vandegrift, Sam Komosa, Jacque Gameson, Cindy Long, Dylan Sease, Council Liaison Debbie Kring, Council Liaison Brian Schmid, Staff Penn Almoney. Sustainability Commission Chair Lauren Reiter-Schmid.

Call to Order

Chair Nicole Sullivan called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Dylan Sease was introduced as a new PRT Commissioner and Sustainability Commission Chair Lauren Reiter-Schmid was welcomed to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were reviewed from the February 12, 2024, PRT Meeting. Corrections were recommended.

Sarah Emanuels moved to accept the Minutes with amendments.

Sarah Grittmann 2nd the motion.

Approved 10-0.

Positive Improvements

Tree City USA. Penn reported that Mission was officially accepted as Tree City USA for 2023. We also received the Growth Award as a higher standard of accountability within the Tree City USA community. He reviewed the different categories in which Mission scored points for Growth Award tabulation, as well as providing a short synopsis of how Mission met the criteria to earn this award.

Jacque Gameson felt *Mission Magazine* should do an article on this achievement as Growth Award winners are in the top 15% of the country; she will contact the magazine with the information.

New Employee. Penn announced that Luke Engleman has been hired as a new employee in the Parks + Recreation Department. He reviewed his background with the Commission and outlined his new responsibilities.

Water Works. There will be an owner, architect, and contractor meeting with Stantec and Centric this week. The new concrete trail pours will be discussed. Penn reported that there were a couple emails from citizens about the slope of access to the trails that need to be addressed. Bathroom specifications have been received. This project is still on schedule.

Streamway Park. City Council Liaison Debbie Kring reported that she visited Streamway and the park was beautiful with no trash. Penn noted that the Parks team has worked at widening the trails and cutting back foliage on the trees which has added more light to the walking areas.

Mohawk Park. Penn has received interest from contractors for Phase 2 bid gathering due this Thursday, March 21. He will then present to the City Council during the April 3 community development committee meeting for their review and approval. Twelve panels of concrete were repoured due to footprints. Three of those repoured panels needed poured a third time due to someone walking on the panels- again.

Sustainability Commission

Nicole Sullivan noted that the PRT Commission will send someone to the Sustainability Commission's (SC) Meeting in Q2. SC Chair Reiterate-Schmid reported that their goals were recently reviewed and presented to Council. SC have money to plant a tree. SC would like to have a Mission Tree Drive with the PRT. It was suggested that the two Commissions have a table at the Mission Market to promote this idea. All agreed that it is a good cause for both Commissions and should be prioritized as a city-wide benefit. Penn will reach out to Justin Carroll, Deputy City Administrator and SC liaison, on this matter. Debbie Kring will reach out to the Rushton Elementary Board for a tree in Water Works Park.

Bunny Eggstravaganza

This event will take place on Saturday, March 30 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Penn recorded names of Commission members willing to volunteer to stuff eggs prior to the event and help during the event.

Tree ID Plaques

Jacque reported that SignPro is a little behind due to KC Royals and Sporting KC branding needs and the Tree ID Plaques are queued for printing next.

City Council Update

Nicole gave a report at the Wednesday, March 20 City Council Meeting on the goals of the PRT and the Rock Creek Trail concepts. It was reported that the City property along the market site is now officially park land and will likely be renamed since it is significantly larger and will have new investment in the future. The Rock Creek Trail connects through this park area.

Debbie reported that she attended meetings in Washington DC and reported on PFAS.

Maintenance Items

Penn reported that AED and fire extinguisher signs have been added above each location at the PCC. WiFi signs have been ordered for parks to help visitors see and access the free WiFi.

Budget Needs/ Goals/ Objectives ppt

Penn reported that the Parks + Recreation budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) was discussed during the last PRT meeting and asked if there were any additional questions. He reviewed several upcoming major costs, including PCC and upcoming park CIP projects.

Sarah Grittmann moved to approve the budget and CIP with recommended goals/objectives

Jacque Gameson 2nd the motion.

Approved 10-0

Tree Plan + Ordinance Review

The Tree Plan was reviewed and the Bradford/Callery Pear removal was discussed. It was suggested that the document "Street Trees for Mission" should be aligned with the updated Forest Service list.

Penn suggested that we stay with a shorter version of the list as the Forest Service list is quite extensive. There is a 50% cost scholarship set aside for residents that apply through Community Development for native tree planting on private property.

Several edits and inclusions were made to update the Municipal Codes 230 and 240. Penn will share those with Mission's legal team and report back.

Penn reminded that citizens need to be aware that, if they plan to plant a tree, it must be an approved species as noted in the Municipal Code. There will be more tree discussions for Arbor Day and during the April PRT meeting.

Sarah Grittmann moved to accept the Tree Plan with revisions or clarification in the following sections: 230.080, 230.085, 230.110, 230.260, 240.070, 240.080, 240.130, 240.230

Cindy Long 2nd the motion

Approved 10-0

PRT Meeting Minutes Recording

Recording minutes for the PRT Commission meetings were discussed and it was decided that it would be a good idea to have two people take on this task and rotate months. Sam Komosa and Katie Anderson volunteered. Cindy also offered to help train and transition the duties.

Adjournment

Sarah Grittmann moved to adjourn the meeting,

Cindy Long 2nd the motion.

Approved 10-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Faithfully submitted by Cindy Long, secretary pro tempore.