

Sanford Parks Advisory Committee
Depot Park
106 Charlotte Ave, Sanford NC
March 21, 2022 4pm

Meeting Minutes

The following people were present

Joni Martin
Al Roethlisberger
Bob Bridwell
Chad Spivey
Todd Childers
John Dean
Alyson Cochrane

Non-Voting Attendees

Nick Fortune
Kelli Laudate
Charles Taylor

Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 4:01pm by Todd Childers.

Approval of Minutes

Chad Spivey made a motion to approve minutes from last meeting, seconded by Joni Martin. Unanimously approved by the committee.

Administrators Report

Nick Fortune gave a brief update on Park Employee changes and upcoming cosmetic changes for Kiwanis bathrooms.

Old Business

Last meeting had discussion about getting pricing for an updated master plan to include the Greenway. Nick stated that the start of the application review process for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant was due last week on Tuesday. This grant would help pay for the greenway expansion and the final application deadline is May 2nd. Would need support from the parks committee and civic groups as well. Resolution if supported by the committee is attached for signatures. As the committee moves forward, it can revisit sub committees.

Joined via video chat was the grant writer, Adrienne Harrington, Founder/Owner of Smart Moves Consulting, who with Nick presented a slideshow for the City of Sanford's Parks & Recreation Trust Fund Grant Project.

The overview of the grant project is to extend the greenway system to include the Medical Mile, Carthage St., Kiwanis Connector and adding a fishing parklet for Skunk Creek for a designated fishing area with informational signage. Project benefits include increasing parks and recreation opportunities for the underprivileged, providing space for exercising to create healthier community, connecting

neighborhoods to parks, and creating opportunities for community bike rides, walks and events. Next steps after application is due is to present to civic groups, host a public meeting and get support from Sanford Parks Commission.

John Dean asked if the YMCA had been contacted about the PARTF application as he thinks they would be very supportive. Bob Bridwell stated that he thought it would be smart to take whatever funds are available first and wanted Adrienne to note the walkability to elementary school in the area. Charles Taylor stated that if the resolution is approved by the committee today than he can have it added to next agenda for the council meeting, which is tomorrow night.

Motion was made to approve the resolution by Bob Bridwell and seconded by Todd Childers. Motion was made to amended previous motion to include correction of typo to say, "City of Sanford's Parks". Unanimously approved by the committee. John stated that he hoped this will get the momentum going for future development. Nick agreed and stated that they would be looking at the likelihood of a completed project with the capital improvement plan by using the existing bike and pedestrian plan.

Nick stated that he has submitted the budget for approval to include funds for the new master plan updates to include the greenway, rails to trails acquisition costs, new playground at Walter McNeill Park and ADA improvements, new park signs, and a weather station for Kiwanis.

Charles wanted everyone to keep in mind that a percentage of ABC sales will be allocated for parks and in the past, it has funded development of the pocket parks.

Chad asked for an update with researching firms for estimates for the master plan. If funding is approved in the budget, then it would open requests for proposals and bids.

Charles stated that with the upcoming warm weather and the opening of the splash pad it would be a good time to get out and survey the people who visit the parks to see what they like, what they don't, what they suggest and other ideas. Alyson Cochrane asked for an update on the food trucks in the parks and Nick stated there was no new updates. Kelli Laudate wanted everyone to note April 29th on their calendar and invite everyone to attend the event "One Depot" which is open to the community for the first time. John said that going back to the agenda that he thought that it would be a good idea to revisit the "top five" list of importance at the next meeting.

Splash pad opening day will be on May 15th this year and Charles stated he thinks it would be a good idea to post on social media how crews are preparing by cleaning/sanitizing the splash area considering COVID. He also suggested that maybe Nick could get some roll footage from opening day for social media by Hazy Productions.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on April 18th.

Comments

None.

Adjournment

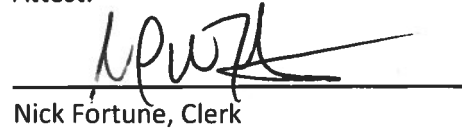
Motion was made to adjourn at 5:01 pm, unanimously approved by the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,



Todd Childers, Chairman

Attest:



Nick Fortune, Clerk