

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, August 1, 2016, for the purpose of getting an update on the Buddy Attick Park Parking Lot-Green Redesign Plan.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:10 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; Jessica Bellah, Community Planner; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Administrative Assistant.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Sharon Bradley, Bradley Site Design, and Bill Orleans.

Ms. Bellah explained that this is a follow up to Council's work session on April 20, 2016, on the Buddy Attick Park Parking Lot-Green Redesign Plan.

Ms. Bradley presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing the revised plans for the Buddy Attick Park Parking Lot-Green Redesign project. She said the revision includes increasing the total number of parking spaces from 92 to 99, with 26 compact spaces and six (6) ADA spaces. The revision also included enhancements to the two entrances to the Park, extension of the walkway, a kiosk and signage. Ms. Bradley said that concerns identified at the last work session (education, plantings in the parking lot, beautification of the park) are incorporated in the revised plans.

Ms. Bradley advised that since the work session she has met with the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, the Advisory Planning Board and the Park and Recreation Advisory Board, to present the plan and obtain their input. She advised that all the groups were supportive of the project, but recommended bike accessibility and improvements to Buddy Attick Park beyond the parking lot be considered.

Ms. Bellah said the current design exceeds available funding for the project. Ms. Bellah explained that staff has determined which elements of the project could be introduced as funding becomes available, essentially creating a phased project.

Council indicated its general support of the project. Mr. Roberts expressed concerns about the removal of the White Pine trees and their replacement with American Redbud trees. He said American Redbud trees are known to have diseases, such as cankers, and generally don't live very long. Mr. Roberts recommended that the White Pine trees be replaced with a larger tree, such as Oak, to provide shade for the future.

Ms. Bellah mentioned the City was under a time restriction to use the Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant funding that was awarded for this project. She indicated that an extension request could be submitted.

After further discussion, Council requested staff and the consultant revise the plans to bring the scope of the project within budget and incorporate Council's comments into the design.

Informational Items

Councilmembers briefly discussed the National Night Out events that will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2016.

Ms. Davis reported that she had been appointed to the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Legislative Committee.

Ms. Mach reported that she was appointed to the MML Communication Committee.

Ms. Mach advised she heard on Channel 7 News that the wood chip playground surfacing (also called engineered wood fiber) is a popular choice at most playgrounds but is not Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant. She requested staff review this concern.

Several other informational items were discussed.

The meeting ended at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Administrative Assistant*