

**PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL**

Subject: Firefly Sanctuary

Background: Ms. Canter submitted a request to City Council for the establishment of a firefly sanctuary along a portion of the stream valley park, and Council referred the item to PRAB. Ms. Canter presented and discussed the proposal with PRAB at the September 18, 2019 regular meeting.

Recommendations: PRAB supports the concept of a firefly sanctuary with the following caveats:

- The concept is appealing but a more formal plan and vision should be developed so that its merits can be evaluated and weighed against other factors.
- Fireflies are part of a larger group of pollinators. As such, a pollinator area would be more widely beneficial, and would provide both a daytime and nighttime opportunity to experience nature, as well as providing a longer range of insect activity and benefit to the community.
- Signage should be considered, as an educational tool on fireflies and other pollinators, as a way to explain why certain grassy areas are not being maintained to the same extent as other areas, and to clearly define the boundaries of the environmental area.
- Private property owners, and GHI, have existing rights to some spaces and would need to be contacted early on in planning and development.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jacob Chesnutt, PRAB Chair
Ric Gordon, PRAB Vice-Chair