

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

ZOOM MEETING MINUTES –June 21, 2021

PRESENT: Jake Chesnutt, Kristen Weaver, Lola Skolnik, Marc Siegel, Ric Gordon, Betty Sonneveldt, Michael Lee, Mayor Pro Tem Jordan

Staff: Greg Varda, Recreation Director
Cathryn Pracht, Administrative Coordinator
Molly Porter, Planner; Planning & Community Development

Presenters: Staff from Quantum Companies and Rodgers Consulting

Excused: Lance Beasley

PRAB meeting called to order at 7:32pm by Chair, Jake Chesnutt

May 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes were approved.

Council Liaison update: Mayor Pro Tem Jordan acknowledged Governor Hogan’s lifting of the State of Emergency as of July 1, 2021. Mr. Jordan is confident that the Recreation Department is working toward the reopening of Recreation Facilities in collaboration with Public Works. He is very thankful to the Recreation Department for keeping city residents safe through the pandemic.

Detailed Site Plan (DSP):

The DSP includes space for 750 apartments, 27,000 square foot Recreation Center, 92 room hotel and four parking garages.

➤ The garage space will be designated as follows:

- Garage 1 to be utilized by building 1A
- Garage 2 to be utilized by building 1B
- Garage 3 will be shared by the hotel as well as the existing mall
- Garage 4 will be shared by the Recreation Center and the mall

Environmental sustainability of the proposal addresses storm water management, edible fruit trees and the energy efficiency of the construction.

Questions have come up regarding the maintenance of the storm water management areas - management will oversee these areas.

Recreation Center construction will begin during phase 1 of development.

The size of the dog park was questioned - concerned about the utilization by all 3 buildings.

PRAB had questions about the “amphitheater”, this area is a community meeting space for residents – relaxing, picnics, and small programs could take place there as well.

Synthetic Turf Field Referral: PRAB report will be sent to Council.

Recreation Department Update:

- Juneteenth Celebration:
 - The movie Black Panther will be playing at the moon lit movie.
 - Possibly sold out
 - SHL Recreation Center:
 - Pop-up museum in the gym
 - No reservations needed
 - Three Sisters Garden:
 - Re-dedicating the garden
 - Park Rangers are giving a heritage tour around the park.
- 4th of July fireworks to return to Buddy Attick Park:
 - There will not be any other type of fanfare at the park.
 - Greenbelt Police Department will handle crowd control.
- Youth Center and Springhill Lake Gymnasiums are open:
 - No reservations required
 - There is a limit to the number of people permitted at one time
- Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center:
 - Staff are looking to expand operations and remove the reservation process
 - Provide more opportunities for family swim times
 - Swim team is back in practicing at the GAFC
- Summer Camp Programming:
 - Camp will begin on Monday June 21st
 - All camps will be half day and in-person
 - Camp will primarily be held outside
 - Camp is using the GVFD hall for Youth on the GO
- Lew Whitmer has resigned from PRAB.
 - Recreation will send a thank you card from the Department.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Cathryn Pracht, Administrative Coordinator