

PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES – February 16, 2021

Present: Jake Chesnutt, Lola Skolnik, Lance Beasley

Council Liaison: Mayor Pro-Tem Weaver

Staff: Greg Varda, Recreation Director
Megan Young, Museum Director
Cathryn Pracht, Administrative Coordinator

Absent: Michael Lee, Marc Seigel

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

January Meeting Minutes were approved.

City Council Liaison Report: Mayor Pro Tem Weaver

City Council meetings have been moved to 7:30pm.

Work Sessions will continue to take place at the regularly scheduled time of 8:00pm.

The allocation of the \$22 million ARPA funds are moving slower than Council would like. Community feedback/engagement sessions will be held in February and March.

Approximately \$1 million in ARPA funds have been utilized for rental relief, mortgage assistance and relief for local businesses. Additional ARPA funds were allocated for an employee vaccine booster incentive.

New Business:

City Council Referral - Recreation and Museum Merger: Megan Young, Museum Director

Ms. Young addressed the organizational structure of the Museum. Currently the Museum is listed in the Miscellaneous section of the budget and she reports to the Assistant City Manager.

Recreation is the most outward facing department. The Museum needs to be more visible to the public and placing the Museum under the Recreation Department will help accomplish this objective.

A capital campaign to raise funds to establish an educational and visitor center at 10 A Crescent, next door to the Museum House, is underway. This space will be used for programs that will teach the history of Greenbelt. Having access to the Recreation Department's data base (RecTrac) and staffing resources will help with programming the new space.

PRAB inquired about the Neighborhood Conservation Overlay Zone (NCOZ) in regards to an addition to 10 A Crescent Rd - Ms. Young indicated that the addition design is within the limits of NCOZ guidelines.

PRAB inquired about how the merger will affect recreation staff and budget needs - Mr. Varda stated that cross training will need to take place. Staff is looking forward to working with Ms. Young to gain a clearer picture on museum budget needs. However, budget increases will be minimal for the first year if the merger is approved.

Recognition Group Application Review

Recreation staff are collecting and reviewing grant applications. Mr. Varda reminded PRAB that they can review any application if they wish.

Grant Review Panel Representative

PRAB Vice Chair, Lance Beasley volunteered to be PRAB's representative to the GRP

Old Business:

Greenbelt Road Corridor Project Update

Council Work Session is scheduled for March 16th.

Neighborhood Design Center – Greenbelt Station Update

Recreation is working with the Neighborhood Design Center and Greenbelt Station residents on outdoor amenities. The project is estimated to take 8 months to complete. NDC will present the project to City Council on March 28th.

PRAB Meeting Time Change

There will be no change.

Buddy Attick Park Masterplan Funding Recommendation from PRAB

PRAB Chair, Jake Chesnutt will send a memo to City Council requesting Council fund a BAP Masterplan in the FY23 Budget.

Recreation Department Updates:

- Spring Activity Guide has been posted on the City website.
- There is talk about getting back to normal operations, reopening. Recreation may mirror plan that Park and Planning is following.
 - The decision regarding a reopening date will come from the City Manager.
- Work on Summer Camp is underway, hoping to have a camp guide out by the end of March.
- The Black History Month Committee is very pleased with how programs are going.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Cathryn Pracht, Administrative Coordinator