



WILDWOOD®

Parks Action Plan Update Committee Minutes from the Monday, January 24, 2018 Meeting

I. Welcome to Committee Members and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Council Member Liaison Bertolino at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

A roll call of members was taken, with the following results:

Committee Members Present: Broyles, Napoli, Coverdell, Gillman, McCune, Meinert, Commission Liaison Beattie, and Council Liaison Bertolino

Committee Members Absent: Committee Member Strand, Council Liaison Alexander, and Chair Garrett

*Other Officials
and Staff in Attendance:*

Council Member Shea, Council Member McCutchen, Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks Arnett, and Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Crews

III. Review and Action on the Meeting Minutes from November 29, 2017

A motion was made by Committee Member Napoli, seconded by Committee Member McCune, to approve the November 29, 2017 minutes. Committee Member Gillman noted the City Administrator was not listed in the 'Other Officials and Staff in Attendance' Section of the minutes. Staff noted he would be added to the official record. A voice vote was taken on the amended minutes, with no opposition, and the motion was declared approved by Council Member Liaison Bertolino.

IV. Review of Tonight's Agenda

The agenda was reviewed by Council Member Liaison Bertolino, who explained that Chair Garrett was unable to attend tonight's meeting. There were no questions.

V. Discussion on Committee Procedures – Chair Garrett

This item was postponed, due to Chair Garrett's absence. Committee Member Gillman opposed the postponement, but since this item was a discussion topic the Chair had proposed, and he was absent, no other opposition arose to its postponement. This matter would be carried over to the Committee's next agenda.

VI. Final Background Information

- a. Park Facilities
- b. Trail Corridors
- c. Event Schedule

Director of Planning Vujnich provided an overview of the parks and trail corridors that are located within the City by ward. Discussion was held regarding the following: the potential for extending the trail at Woodcliff Heights Subdivision, along Strecker Road, to the north; the potential for building trails through Winding Trails Park; the potential for putting a hold on park development that is underway; the purpose of the Committee to provide direction for the next 10 years, not to stop what was planned previously; the need to delineate potential trail connections between parks identifying areas that need to be completed; the desire of the Committee Members to understand the miles of trails that have been constructed and the distances that can be traveled using sidewalks, trails, shoulders, and roadways in combination; the City Council's recent approval of an off-road vehicle and funding of a Police Officer for parks and trails security; the desire of the Committee to ensure the gaps in the trails are completed; the need to include emergency locators on trails; and a discussion on how the City collaborates with MDNR, MDC, St. Louis County, Great Rivers Greenway, etc.

Director of Planning Vujnich reviewed the City's schedule of events, which was approved by City Council for 2018. Discussion was held regarding the following: questions on the location of events and how that is decided; the potential for purchasing land along Main Street extension to be used for parks and recreation; concerns with land being developed in the Town Center Area and losing potential places for events; the discussion of providing a Village Green within the Town Center for future event space, especially as a result of development; and the funding, most of which is in place from grant monies, for the tunnel planned for construction under State Route 109, just south of State Route 100.

VII. Survey Discussion

Department staff noted there was nothing additional to add on the survey results, since the previous presentation, but wanted the Committee Members to have the opportunity to discuss them now, given they have had a longer time to review the final tabulations. Committee Members discussed the following: the desire to have another survey, once the Committee starts to progress in its recommendations to garner public feedback; the option to provide a draft of their goals/objectives to the public for feedback; the need for transparency throughout the project; concerns with the survey questions that were issued that don't address the lack of sustainability of commercial businesses in the Town Center; the potential for doing Town Hall style meetings to gather feedback; the ability to budget for purchases, if the Committee deems such appropriate for something like a Village Green or other open space, whether in Town Center or elsewhere in the City; and the importance of focusing on the Action Plan and its revision, which is this Committee's mission.

VIII. Selection of Meeting Dates for 2018

It was noted that the Committee had previously reached consensus to schedule their meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month, at 6:30 p.m.; however, given two (2) Committee Members have noted

conflicts with that timeframe and day of month, a new meeting schedule was discussed. Review of the City Hall calendar identified the 4th Tuesday of each month, beginning in March, as the only consistent alternative. Discussion was held among the Committee Members and consensus was reached to set their remaining meeting schedule beginning on Tuesday, February 13th as the next meeting date, and then the 4th Tuesday of each month thereafter.

Director Vujnich provided a handout for discussion amongst the Committee, which identified a potential structure for the remaining meetings. Council Liaison Bertolino noted agendas are set with input from both staff and the Committee Members. Committee Member Gillman questioned why staff is providing input on meeting agendas. Discussion was held regarding the following: noting staff's memorandum is simply a recommendation and is an orderly way to begin the process; the need for staff participation in the process, since they will be responsible for the plan's implementation on a day-to-day basis; and the fact that Committee Member input has been sought for each meeting and when items have been requested for distribution or discussion by a member, it has been provided/discussed.

IX. Public Comments

Debra McCutchen, Council Member Ward Five, noted her concerns with the City expending money in Belleview Farms, since it is land that is owned by St. Louis County and outside of the City limits.

Kelley Woerther, 539 Nantucket Pointe Drive, thanked the Committee for its time and noted the Belleview Farms property is an important parcel of ground from a historic perspective. She then thanked staff for their time and effort on this process.

Tammy Shea, Council Member Ward Three, noted her ongoing support of a Village Green within the Town Center Area.

X. Other Items of Interest

Background information on the Belleview Farms Park was distributed to the Committee, including the draft of the master plan that had been developed.

Renderings were shown from the Master Plan of Community Park to provide information on the locations of potential future phases, which the Committee can direct in what order they will be completed. Discussion was held regarding the following: the Committee Members' concerns with the amphitheater being too remote to be used and disturbing the quiet atmosphere of the park and surrounding area; the potential uses of the lakes that would be installed; the desire to see a larger radius around Community Park to determine what could happen within its vicinity; and the potential for the use of the natural hillside near the Community College for the development of an amphitheater, which provides good access to parking, and other positive aesthetics and characteristics.

The Committee requested a discussion on the phases of Community Park be added to a future agenda.

XI. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

A motion was made by Committee Member Gillman, seconded by Committee Member Broyles, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken, with unanimous approval, and Council Liaison Bertolino declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.