

City of Wildwood
Council Planning/Parks Committee
“Planning Tomorrow Today”
Minutes from the
May 17, 2022 Meeting

The Council Planning/Parks Committee meeting was called to order by Council Member Clark, at 6:30 p.m., on May 17, 2022, at Wildwood City Hall, 16860 Main Street, Wildwood, Missouri, in virtual format (Zoom Webinar).

I. Welcome and Roll Call:

The roll call was taken, with the following results:

PRESENT – (7)

Council Member Clark
Council Member Farmer
Council Member Flaschar (*arriving at 6:35 p.m.*)
Council Member Rambaud
Council Member Ottenberg
Council Member Gillani
Council Member Bartoni

ABSENT – (1)

Council Member McCutchen

Other City Officials present:

Steve Cross, City Administrator
Joe Vujnich, Director of Planning and Parks
Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks

II. Selection of a Chair of the Committee for the Year 2022/2023

Council Member Clark introduced this agenda item and opened the floor for nominations for the selection of the Chair of the Committee.

Council Member Rambaud nominated Council Member Bartoni. No other nominations were offered.

A voice vote was held regarding Council Member Bartoni being selected as Chair of the Committee. Hearing a unanimous affirmative vote, Chair Bartoni assumed the position of Chair.

III. Approval of Minutes from the Committee's Meeting of April 19, 2022

A motion was made by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Clark, to approve the meeting minutes of April 19, 2022, A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Bartoni.

IV. Public Input (opportunity for the public to speak to any Action Item on Tonight's Agenda).

Council Member Garritano, Ward Eight Representative, spoke regarding the Hometown Heroes Banner Program and noted his support of the City offering such. Mr. Garritano introduced Dr. Napuli, a resident, who brought the Hometown Heroes Banner Program opportunity to his, and now, the Committee's attention.

Dr. Jason Napuli, provided a description of the Hometown Heroes banner program that is implemented in other communities and stated he would like the City of Wildwood to implement such in his community.

V. Action Items

a.) Planning Matters – Four (4) Items Ready for Consideration

1.) Discussion of Hometown Heroes Program and its Components (Wards – All)

Assistant Director Rippetoe provided an overview of the Hometown Heroes Banner Program, as it is implemented in other communities within the St. Louis Region. Ms. Rippetoe outlined the various considerations that are anticipated for the implementation of this specific banner program, including duration of display, time of year, and pricing and cost items. Ms. Rippetoe stated the Department is seeking the Committee's endorsement to move forward with additional research to determine the various options for the City to consider in implementing a Hometown Heroes Banner Program.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding the overall support of a Hometown Heroes Banner Program and the Department proceeding with gathering additional information and details regarding implementing such.

A motion by Council Member Gillani, seconded by Council Member Ottenberg, to endorse the Department continuing to gather additional details to present to the Committee regarding a Hometown Heroes Banner Program. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Bartoni.

2.) Building and Trade Code Review (Wards All)

Director Vujnich provided the background information regarding the City Council's request for the Department to review this matter. He stated the Department has contacted the Fire Marshals at the three (3) fire protection districts that serve the City, as well as the leadership at St. Louis County Department of Public Works, the agency that implements the building and trade codes on behalf of the City. He stated the individual at St. Louis County provided detailed information regarding the formation, implementation, and consideration of changes to the applicable building and trade codes, which is outlined in the Department's Memorandum. Director Vujnich stated that, based on this information, the Department believes the code development and implementation to be extremely thorough and well done, in terms of including a great deal of input from all impacted and participating parties. Director Vujnich stated the Department is seeking the support of the Committee to prepare a final draft report regarding this matter to be presented to this Committee and then City Council.

Discussion was held regarding whether or not the process that was outlined in the Department's Memorandum would consider and accommodate new technology and/or building techniques that are not addressed by the adopted and applicable codes.

A motion by Council Member Rambaud, seconded by Council Member Clark, to direct the Department to prepare a final draft report regarding this matter and present such to the Committee for final action at an upcoming meeting. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Bartoni.

3.) Updates on Birch Forest Drive Turnaround (Ward Five)

Director Vujnich provided an update to the Committee regarding this ongoing project. He advised there have been delays in completing the work due to permitting issues, given some of the improvements are being installed within on private property and will need an additional easement, as well as a change to a stormwater management structure that required further review by the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD). Director Vujnich also provided an update regarding planned changes to the landscape plan to address non-native species that had previously been considered at this location. Director Vujnich concluded by advising the Department will also be contacting the Metro West Fire Protection District to discuss the consideration of eliminating the emergency access at this location.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding the changes to the landscape plan, specifically the plant species of concern, and the location of the plantings in relation to any planned signage to avoid a visual blockage of it, if applicable.

Director Vujnich advised this item was only an update and no action was needed.

4.) Overview of Recent Development Trends within City of Wildwood (Wards - All)

Director Vujnich stated this item is for informational purposes and the Department is available to address any questions the Committee Members might have on this summary.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding concerns about the plumbing design for the Durga Temple, and whether or not such would also be a consideration for the Murugan Temple, at the time of its future construction.

b.) Parks Matters – Five (5) Items Ready for Consideration

1.) Further Review of Design and Engineered Plan, including Revised Cost Estimate, for the Hardcourt Facility in Community Park (Ward One)

Director Vujnich provided an overview of the Committee's discussion and direction regarding this matter, which is now reflected on the provided plan sheets. Director Vujnich noted the City Council acted to add this project as an item in its strategic planning document. Director Vujnich stated the Department is seeking the Committee's input regarding this most recent version of the plans for the hardcourt facility in Community Park.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding concerns about spending the amount identified to provide a hard court play area for a single type of user, compared to multiple user types; the currently popularity of Pickle Ball and whether or not it will remain the same in the future; the addition of other opportunities for Pickle Ball hardcourt facilities in the region; the various considerations regarding the availability of funds for the project; the desire to return to the original design, incorporating a mix of users; the need to minimize disturbance to the greatest extent possible; and the need to minimize costs associated with the project.

A motion by Council Member Flaschar, seconded by Council Member Rambaud, to direct the Department to proceed with the completion of the design and engineering drawings for bidding purposes for this project, as well as the continued study of the necessary budget adjustments to provide funding for it, as well. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Bartoni.

2.) Consideration of Change to Park and Recreation Regulations for Special Events Serving Alcohol (Wards – All)

Director Vujnich provided a summary of the origin of this request relating to the City's regulations regarding the prohibition of alcoholic beverages in the City's park facilities and the consideration of modifying them to allow for such via a dedicated permitting process for special events only. He stated

the Department is seeking the endorsement of the Committee to proceed with the development of amended regulations, permitting process, and relevant considerations relating to this matter.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding concerns about intoxicated individuals in the City's park facilities and the consideration of allowing alcoholic beverages on a case-by-case basis.

A motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Rambaud, to direct the Department to proceed with this matter. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Bartoni by a vote of 6-1 (Voting Nay: Council Member Clark).

3.) Application for Use of City Facilities by Alive, Inc. (Pedal for Peace)(Wards – All)

Assistant Director of Planning and Parks Rippetoe provided an overview of the planned special event that is requesting the use of the John L. LeCave Memorial Trailhead to serve as an aid station for this charitable bicycle ride. Ms. Rippetoe stated the organization would like to use the trailhead facility and associated restrooms, but are not requesting any additional assistance from the City. Ms. Rippetoe stated the Department is recommending the Committee support the request and forward the matter to City Council for its review and final action.

No discussion was held among Committee Member regarding this matter.

A motion by Council Member Gillani, seconded by Council Member Ottenberg, to support the Department's recommendation, as presented. A voice vote was taken to approve the motion, with affirmative result. The motion was declared approved by Chair Bartoni.

4.) Update on In-Person and Virtual Recreation Programs (Wards - All)

The Committee was asked to review the attached Memorandum concerning *Updates on the In-Person and Virtual Recreation Programs* and present any questions Committee Members might have upon this information.

Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich advised this item was only an update and no action was needed.

5.) Update on Facility Reservations, Event Registrations, and Ongoing and Long-Term Maintenance Costs for Parks and Trail Facilities (Wards – All)

The Committee was asked to review the attached Memorandum concerning *Updates on Facility Reservations, Event Registrations, and Ongoing and Long-Term Maintenance Costs for Parks and Trail Facilities* and present any questions Committee Members might have upon this information.

c.) Executive Session Pursuant to RSMO 610.021 (2) – No Items for Consideration

V. Not Ready for Action – Parks and Planning Matters – Seven (7) Items

No discussion.

VI. Other Matters

Assistant Director Rippetoe provided an update on the Department’s progress regarding the Urban Night Sky application, at the request of Council Member Rambaud.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment:

A motion by Council Member Farmer, seconded by Council Member Flaschar, to adjourn. A voice vote was taken regarding the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result, and it was declared approved by Chair Bartoni at 7:56 p.m.