

City of Wildwood
Council Planning/Parks Committee
"Planning Tomorrow Today"
*Minutes from the
July 18, 2023 Meeting*

The Council Planning/Parks Committee meeting was called to order by Council Member Gillani, at 6:30 p.m., on July 18, 2023, in the City Council Chambers, at Wildwood City Hall, 16860 Main Street, Wildwood, Missouri.

I. Welcome and Roll Call:

The roll call was taken, with the following results:

PRESENT – (7)

Council Member Clark
Council Member Ottenberg
Council Member Marshall
Council Member Gillani
Council Member Rambaud
Council Member Dodwell
Council Member Bartoni (via Zoom)

ABSENT – (1)

Council Member Flaschar

Other City Officials present:

Melanie Rippetoe, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Joe Vujnich, Director of Planning and Parks

II. Approval of Minutes from the Committee's Meeting of June 20, 2023

A motion was made by Council Member Ottenberg, seconded by Council Member Clark, to approve the meeting minutes of June 20, 2023. A voice vote was taken regarding the motion. The motion was declared approved by Chair Gillani by a vote of 6-0, with Council Member Bartoni abstaining.

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

Paul Keppel, a representative from Gateway Off-Road Cyclists (GORC), described the organization's request to create an Informational Trailhead Monument at Bluff View Park. GORC has spent considerable time creating and maintaining unique and desirable off-road bicycle trails in Bluff View Park, and it is seeking this informational monument as a way to offer an overview map, information on the bike-specific trails, and park history.

A motion was made by Council Member Dodwell, seconded by Council Member Rambaud, to move the GORC Sign Request item to the first item, as there are representatives present in person. A voice vote was unanimous, and Chair Gillani declared the motion approved.

IV. Action Items

a.) Parks Matters – One (1) Item Ready for Consideration

1.) Gateway Off-Road Cyclists' (GORC) Sign Request in Bluff View Park (Ward Six)

Director Vujnich presented information to the Committee Members regarding the history of the park, background of the Gateway Off-Road Cyclists (GORC) and their relationship to the park, and the GORC request for the signage, as well as design options for consideration. There are existing columns that GORC would like to recondition for the purpose of this sign, which would match the two (2) columns at the entrance to the trailhead. GORC would be responsible for the concept, but asks the City to take on its installation. The Department asks for consideration on the design components of the sign, location factors, and identifying total costs through bidding. This relationship with GORC has been mutually beneficial, so the Department asks for authorization to take the next steps, creating plan sheets and specifications for the sign, and then obtaining bids that could be considered for the 2024 fiscal budget.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding cost expectations and creative ways to procure the funding for the project; including Wildwood aesthetics in the sign's design proposal, as well as consideration for continuity by including similar signs at all trailheads; and the community engagement and desirability of the area.

A motion was made by Council Member Dodwell, seconded by Council Member Rambaud, to authorize the Department to move forward with creating project plan sheets, and obtaining bids for the cost of the project. A voice vote was taken regarding the motion, and it was declared approved by Chair Gillani by a vote of 7-0.

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

New Business – Three (3) Items

1.) Watershed Projects and Associated Recommendations from Task Force (Wards Two and Five)

Director Vujnich presented the Committee Members information on two (2) specific areas identified by the Watershed Task Force as priority locations. These locations include areas where the erosion is affecting the structural soundness of nearby homes. Funding was set aside to match State grants that the City had sought through the State but none of them were awarded. These funds were already

allocated for watershed projects and the Department would like to utilize them on a few key projects to improve runoff, including retrofitting basins within the Caulks Creek Watershed, to slow the water down and mitigate erosion issues. The Department requests moving forward with obtaining bids and engineering specifications, which would be presented for Committee consideration, when developing the budget for the 2024 Fiscal Year.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding sharing the cost between the City and the particular Homeowner's Associations, ensuring the residents have a vested interest in maintenance, following any mitigation projects; analyzing the balances and procedures the Watershed Erosion Task Force used to identify these two locations as priority areas; educating all residents on runoff issues and simple mitigation strategies they could undertake, including stabilizing the land with plants and/or trees; and adhering to facts over feelings, when considering responsibility of the City versus the residents.

A motion by Council Member Bartoni, seconded by Council Member Dodwell, allowing the Department to begin engineering and bid specifications to consider budgeting Watershed Erosion Taskforce recommendations in the 2024 Fiscal Year. A voice vote was taken regarding the motion. The motion was declared approved by Chair Gillani by a vote of 7-0.

2.) Urban Night Sky Designation – An update and Next Steps (Wards – All)

Assistant Director Rippetoe presented the Committee Members information regarding the Urban Night Sky Designation application. The Department believes that specific parks may already, or with very little intervention, encompass the criteria required for this designation. This designation would recognize light practices and allow the parks to serve as role models for dark sky protection. Once certified, the Department would continue community education through existing or new events that pertain to light pollution and its remediation. The Department will include Bluff View Park and Community Park in the initial application but would like direction on including Village Green. If included in the application, prior to the project's initiation, the Village Green site plan could utilize light management practices so, no adjustments would need to be made after the project's completion.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding required signage in the parks; need for adjusting hours of operation for parks with the Urban Night Sky designation; the need for education regarding light pollution; and recognizing the three (3) parks suggested, incorporate multiple classifications, including rural, urban and blended designations.

The motion was made by Council Member Dodwell, seconded by Council Member Rambaud, to include Village Green in the application. A voice vote was taken regarding the motion. The motion was declared approved by Chair Gillani with a vote of 7-0.

3.) Town Center Area – Development Summary (Wards One, Four, Five, Seven, and Eight)

Director Vujnich shared a chart the Department created incorporating all of the relevant specifications to a development project, using the Crestview Project as an example. The Department would like the Committee Members to endorse creating and sharing similar charts, pertaining to other development project, as they are proposed. This chart provides a summary of key points of the development proposal, including desired zoning changes, density allowances, and requested use of the site.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding including other proposed developments on the same map to see how they relate; the usefulness of the City's standards being summarized for the public; and desire to generate an executive summary of all forthcoming projects.

A motion was made by Council Member Marshall, seconded by Council Member Dodwell, to endorse presenting this chart to the council with the intention of creating a summary for all development proposals. A voice vote was taken and declared approved by Chair Gillani, with a vote of 7-0.

Old Business – One (1) Item

4.) Recent Development Trends within the City of Wildwood (Wards – All)

Discussion among Committee Members regarding The Reserve and Ashleigh Grove and the allowance for these developments to follow the former Tree Preservation and Restoration Code.

No motion was required for this update item.

c.) Parks Matters – Four (4) Items Ready for Consideration

Old Business – Two (2) Items

1.) Celebrate Wildwood Event – Revenues and Expenditures – July 2023 Update (Wards – All)

Director Vujnich updated the Committee Members with the current total of revenue collected for Celebrate Wildwood. This revenue was acquired via sponsorships, donations, and booth fees. The Department is nearing the \$30,000 goal. No action is required on this item.

2.) Bid Results for the Re-Location of Anniversary Park Swing Set to Glencoe City Park (Wards Four and Six)

Director Vujnich presented to the Committee Members three (3) bid results, with \$31,000 being the lowest of them, which was higher than anticipated. The bid includes the pad for the swings, mulching the fall zones, and creating a concrete gutter around the perimeter for drainage purposes. The

Department inquired if the Committee Members would prefer to move forward with the project, find bid alternatives, omit some components to reduce the cost, or table it for another time.

Discussion was held among Committee Members regarding the condition of the old swing set; possibility that choosing a different area would decrease total cost; possible alternative locations, where the swing set could be installed and included in the overall cost; and opportunities for trade or sale to other municipalities.

A motion was made by Council Member Ottenberg, seconded by Council Member Marshall, to delay consideration for relocation of the swing set. A voice vote was taken and declared approved by Chair Gillani by a vote of 7-0.

New Business – Two (2) Items

3.) 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 ask any questions the members might have regarding this information.

No discussion was held regarding this update item.

4.) 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 the In-Person and Virtual Recreation Programs* and ask any questions the members might have regarding this information.

Director Vujnich updated the Committee Members with the total amount regarding maintenance, landscaping, and repairs for the Parks and Trail Corridors from late-April through Mid-June. This total included an emergency repair for Rock Hollow Trail and plumbers attending to multiple clogs at the park bathrooms. Those were two (2) higher cost projects, but the Department is considering creative ways to minimize these costs, when discussing the 2024 budget.

No action was required for this update item.

d.) Executive Session Matters – One (1) Item Ready for Consideration - PER CLOSED RECORD - PURSUANT to RSMO 610.021(2) 1994/Lease, Purchase, or Sale of Real Estate

Council Member Rambaud made the motion to go into the Closed Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Clark. A roll call vote was held regarding the motion, with the following results:

A motion was made by Council Member Rambaud to leave the Closed Executive Session, which was seconded by Council Member Clark. A roll call vote was held regarding the motion, with the following results:

Aye – Council Member Clark, Council Member Ottenberg, Council Member Marshall, Council Member Gillani, Council Member Rambaud, Council Member Dodwell, Council Member Bartoni
Nay - None
Absent – Council Member Flaschar
Abstain - None

VI. Not Ready for Action – Parks and Planning Matters – Eleven (11) Items

No discussion.

VII. Other Matters – No Items for Consideration

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment:

A motion by Council Member Dodwell, seconded by Council Member Ottenberg, to adjourn. A voice vote was taken regarding the motion, with unanimous, affirmative result, and it was declared approved by Chair Gillani at 8:51 p.m.