



WILDWOOD®

Parks Action Plan Update Committee Minutes from the Tuesday, October 2, 2018 Meeting

I. Welcome to Committee Members and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Chair Garrett at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

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

Committee Members Present: Strand, Napoli, Coverdell, Gillman, McCune, Broyles, Commission Liaison Beattie, Council Liaison Gragnani, and Chair Garrett

Committee Members Absent: Committee Member Pickett and Council Liaison Bertolino

Other Officials

and Staff in Attendance: Council Members Shea and Woerther, 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 August 28, 2018

A motion was made by Committee Member McCune, seconded by Committee Member Broyles, to approve the August 28, 2018 minutes. A voice vote was taken on the minutes, with no opposition, and the motion was declared approved by Chair Garrett.

IV. Review of Tonight's Agenda Items

The agenda was reviewed by Chair Garrett. There were no questions.

V. Presentation by Resident Bill Kennedy on Village Greens

Chair Garrett introduced Bill Kennedy and thanked him for being here tonight at the meeting. Mr. Kennedy then provided a presentation on Village Greens, including their concept and a large number of examples. He noted Greens are a gathering place for the community, with the most famous of them in the United States, being the New Haven Green, in New Haven, Connecticut, which dates back to the 1630's. He noted important elements within greens he has visited, including slopes retained and the use of amphitheaters, planting tree consistently to plan ahead, when the old grove dies or is damaged, picnic tables, benches, trails, bandstands, flag poles, large open spaces, landscaping, lighting, pavilions, fountains, bordered by a mixture of commercial, residential, and institutional uses, and parking nearby, which can be either diagonal

type on perimeter of green or one-directional lanes, with parallel parking. He concluded noting the design of good Village Greens requires vision and creativity.

VI. Presentation by Committee Member Broyles on Great Rivers Greenway Western Ring Concept and Plan

Committee Member Broyles noted she provided a pamphlet to each Committee Member from Great Rivers Greenway, which shows its overall plans for the region, including the Western Greenway, which is partially located in Wildwood. She encouraged everyone to learn about the Great Rivers Greenway organization and support the connections they have planned.

VII. Next Steps, including Final Recommendations and Public Forums/Open Houses

Discussion was then held regarding the following: if the City has plans to purchase any additional land adjacent to the current properties in the Town Center Area; the desire to expand the vision of open space within the Town Center Area beyond the recently purchased six (6) acres; the potential for establishing a minimum size for a Village Green; if the Committee wants to recommend the newly acquired six (6) acres in Town Center Area as a Village Green.

A motion was made by Committee Member McCune, seconded by Committee Member Napoli, to create a fifth goal in the Parks and Recreation Action Plan, which would identify the newly acquired six (6) acres within the Town Center Area as a Village Green, including a recommendation to the City to conduct a study of its elements and further consider its future expansion.

Discussion was then held regarding the following: if the City Council believes this location is the best location for a Village Green; the desire to make a strong recommendation on using this six (6) acres as the Village Green; the potential to include language that recommends this area for a Village Green, unless a better location is determined in the future; the availability of commercial uses along both Main Street and Manchester Road; and proximity of the parking garage to the six (6) acre tract and other surrounding uses that support its location in this area.

A voice vote was taken, with no opposition, and the motion was declared approved by Chair Garrett.

VIII. Next Meeting Date – October 23, 2018 (Tuesday)

Consensus was reached among the Committee Members to have each member review the slide from Mr. Kennedy's presentation, which listed improvements they would like to see within the Village Green and discuss at the next Committee meeting. Department staff will draft the text for Goal #5 and the Committee will review and amend at this meeting. The meeting date of October 23, 2018 was kept by the Committee.

IX. Public Comments

Council Member Tammy Shea, noted she would like the Committee to outline its items the members can agree upon regarding a Village Green and include them in its recommendation, regardless of the location of the public space.

X. Other Items of Interest

Director of Planning Vujnich noted the City is hosting an Art Festival on October 20 and 21 in Town Center Area and invited all to attend.

XI. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

A motion was made by Committee Member McCune, seconded by Committee Member Coverdell, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken, with unanimous approval, and Chair Garrett declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.