

# Parks Committee

City of Roeland Park  
Draft Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Roeland Park City Hall

## Attendees

-Committee members and liaisons- Corey Coe Becky Fast (Council Liaison), Jan Grebe, Jose Leon (Public Works Advisor), Jennifer Probyn, Tyler Steele, Kathleen Whitworth

-Absent: Erin Thompson (Council Liaison)

-Guests-Keith Moody (City Administrator), Michael Rhoades, (City Council Budget Advisor), Sara Coe (Citizens Fund Raising Initiative for R Park), Gretchen and Ardie Davis (Citizens Fund Raising Initiative for R Park), Kevin White, Jim Haley

## Call to Order by Jennifer Probyn

**Approval of Minutes:** December draft meeting minutes approved

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## Old Business

### Action items completed

- February meeting with Boulevard Apartments has been scheduled. Easement for multi-use track trail is one of the items to be discussed. Keith, Jose, Tyler and Becky to attend
- Urban Trails representative Brett Shoffner presented the Nall Park multi-use track trail proposal at the January 6<sup>th</sup> Community Forum. Some concerns were raised but overall responses were positive.
- Request submitted to Jennifer Murphy to take down R Park Amenities Community Foundation webpage. Jennifer Murphy traveling and will return on 01/19/16
- Quote and rendering for custom recycling bin for R Park was secured from Landscape Forms. Cost is high (\$1750 including shipping) due to customization required. More discussion is needed. \$600 from Community Foundation funds have been secured through donor approvals for this specific piece.
- Two options for tree markers were presented. Concern that tree markers may compete with memorial plaques on the same tree. Marker composite material must have longevity. Jan Greebe to research further.
- \$253 carryover from the \$1000 2015 Parks Committee allotment will be allowed. The residual funds will be placed in the Community Foundation for Parks and Trees. Committee budget allotment for 2016 is again \$1000.
- Strategic Plan accomplishments for Parks Committee in 2015 were completed and sent to City Admin, Council and Mayor.
- **2016 available funds for Parks Committee**
  - \$1253 in Parks budget plus \$600 in the Community Foundation.
- **Review of updated R Park Masterplan**
  - Concept approved by Parks however some concerns were expressed. Parks will likely have an ad hoc meeting prior to the February 1<sup>st</sup> Council workshop meeting to discuss the plan in-depth. Parks can then provide clear recommendations to the Council.
    - *Not enough benches close to play equipment*
    - *What to do with existing benches?*
    - *Picnic tables too close to pine trees. (The sap and needles from the pine trees will cause damage and invalidate the amenities' warranty)*
- **Budget discussion from capital expenditures**
  - \$48,563 allotted in 2016 budget for Park improvements
    - Applies to both new and/or replacement of existing elements.
  - Priorities need to be established. Large ticket items such as Nall Park bathroom, R Park tennis court will exceed 2016 allotment.
  - Committee to review Public Works assessments completed in order to develop expenditure priorities
  - Recommendations and priorities need to be submitted to Council prior to May, 2016

- The city is managing RFPs for certain park replacement items, namely Nall Park bathroom, shelter and drinking fountain.

## New Business

- **Recruiting new Parks Committee members**
  - One member has resigned due to conflicting priorities and time constraints. Parks Committee can have up to 10 members. Committee members to recruit new members if a good candidate is known.
- **Resident voices**
  - A concern that there is no shade at R Park making the park unusable in hot months especially for parents with infants. It was suggested that Parks consider sun shades to alleviate the problem
  - It was suggested that a shelter within R Park would make the park more usable.
- **Park Passport**
  - Parks/Public Works from various NE Johnson County cities are collaborating to encourage park use and education. Each participating city will select a park within their city and generate 2-3 questions about the park. Residents participating in the program will receive the questions for each park and a contest will be held. Prizes (through a drawing) will be awarded for participants completing all questions correctly. Response to this program was favorable from the Committee members.
- **New Action items**
  - Jose is completing replacement costs assessments for Sweaney Park, Cooper Creek Park and the Community Center. The assessments will assist in the prioritization of 2015 and 2016 budget allotments for Parks.
  - All Committee Members need to print, read and sign the KOMA documents prior to February meeting. Take signed documents to City Hall.
  - Jan to perform more research on Tree Marker options
  - Committee members to think of 3 questions for February meeting for either Nall or R Park for potential use in Park Passport project
  - Jan to send list of upcoming events sponsored by other committees for inclusion in meeting minutes and agendas on a going forward basis
- **Open Action Items from previous meetings**
  - R Park Drinking Fountain-This item remains open until after the new R Park Plan is presented to the Council in February, 2016.
    - Open Questions
      - Which of the options presented will be chosen?
        - Location? Two options being reviewed
      - If additional costs arise other than what has been donated (plumbing and the fountain) who pays?
      - Who will pay the water bill?
    - Jose will do more research on maintenance costs for the new trees
    - Kathleen to pursue option of contracting out tree installation with Suburban Lawn and Garden to see if contracting out may be a better solution. Company will plant, mulch, fertilize and stake new trees. A two year guarantee is included if the company plants the trees.
    - More research needs to be done regarding the Memorial Tree Program and how this can be encouraged. Provides low cost options for donors and would include adopt a tree.

### **Motions Approved**

- R Park high level concept design approved by Parks with suggestions. Jennifer to arrange an ad-hoc meeting for Parks to review the plan in more detail prior to the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

### **Other Matters/Reminders/Announcements**

Committee will review Public Works Parks Assessment documents in February in order to begin the budget prioritization process. City Council will make final decisions however, Parks input is needed.

### **Parks Committee Meetings**

**Ad-hoc meeting proposed for Parks to review in depth R Park Master Plan. Date TBD. Jennifer to coordinate.**

Next Regular Committee Meeting: Wednesday, February 10th, 2016 6:00 PM City Hall