

Minutes of the
PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
Thursday, February 18, 2010
Council Chambers

Members: Chair Barb Knop, Vice Chair Jean Williams, Eliza Davis, Ed Johnson, Robert Reid, and Robin Risley

Staff: City Manager Rich Mays, Public Works Director Mark See, and Administrative Assistant Stephanie McGuire

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Knop called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. and introduced Eliza Davis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2010

Motion: Williams moved to approve the minutes of January 21, 2010; Reid seconded the motion.

Vote: Johnson, Knop, Reid, Risley, and Williams voted AYE. The vote was 5/0 in favor and the motion passed.

Johnson asked about the status of the parking management plan and whether or not the elementary school parking lot would be used for summer parking. See reported that the school site would not be used.

COMMUNITY GRANTS TIMELINE

In response to a question by Williams, Mays stated that the amount of money for the community grants will be determined during the budget process and is not available at this time.

Risley asked if the Parks Committee would be receiving grant applications from the non-profits that may benefit from a lodging tax increase. Mays reported that a committee may be in place at the time of the community grants process, but that the committee will not be considering monetary issues until after the development of procedures and criteria. If all of the required mechanisms are in place, there would be no additional lodging tax funds available until after the first quarter of FY 2010-2011, approximately November 1, 2010.

Knop asked that press releases regarding the community grants process be submitted to *The Gazette* and *The North Citizen*.

MEMORIAL SCULPTURE

Eeva Lantella introduced the sculpture artists, Linley Schetky and Ann Cavanaugh, and reported on the history of the memorial sculpture. Lantella said that the Mari Rockett memorial sculpture will be unveiled on March 20th outside of DragonFire Gallery, at Ecola Square, and that she had permission from the mall owner to leave the sculpture outside of the gallery for a period of one week. Both artists spoke about the sculpture and identified the elements and materials used. The sculpture will weigh approximately 500 pounds and is over ten feet in height. The kinetic wing is at eight feet in height and will move with the wind. The sculpture is designed for the elements of the weather to travel through the sculpture. The sculpture is thirty-four inches at the base and tapers to fourteen inches at the top. The sculpture is designed to be lit internally. Ann Cavanaugh stated that each glass panel will weigh over thirty pounds and will be coated with *Clear Shield* to

protect the glass. The glass panels are about one-half inch thick, and each panel has a theme. The themes are fire, water, and air with wildlife and other symbols hidden within the design. Eeva Lantella stated that she would be developing a brochure about the sculpture. Lantella reiterated that she would bear any costs involved with the installation and moving of the sculpture. Johnson asked if Lantella had any locations in mind for the temporary placement of the sculpture. Lantella stated that she did not know if there were any locations available from the Sculpture Without Walls program. She stated that the openness of Les Shirley Park was appealing to her and well suited to the sculpture. While that location may not be as visible to the public as a location downtown would be, the scale of the sculpture may be more suited to Les Shirley Park. Risley stated that Les Shirley Park was not used this year for the Sculpture Without Walls program.

Mays reviewed the staff report and mentioned that Mari Rockett was a charter member of the Sculpture Without Walls Committee as well as a member of the Parks and Community Services Committee. Kirk Anderson stated that the sculpture location at the downtown restrooms would be available until September, when construction would begin on new restrooms. Williams asked if a private property location had been considered. Lantella stated that she did not know of any private property owners that would be willing to have a sculpture displayed that the public could visit at will.

By consensus, the Parks Committee determined that sculpture was not consistent with the Commemorative Gift Policy because of the temporary situation. Williams suggested that the matter be referred to the Sculpture Without Walls Committee because Lantella is seeking a temporary location for the sculpture.

Motion: Reid moved that the project be supported by the Parks Committee and that the matter be referred to the Sculpture Without Walls Committee for their review and placement of the temporary sculpture. Johnson seconded the motion.

Vote: Johnson, Knop, Reid, Risley, and Williams voted AYE. The vote was 5/0 in favor and the motion passed.

SOUTH EMERGENCY CACHE SITE

Mays stated that a south emergency cache site and a community garden were under consideration for the Sports Park site, but that a community garden will no longer be considered for the Sports Park. Mays asked that the Committee review the proposal because the Parks and Community Services Committee has jurisdiction over the Sports Park. Mays stated that the Sports Park would be an appropriate location for an emergency cache site due to the elevation of the property exceeding one hundred feet. See stated that a conditional use permit application will be heard by the Planning Commission in March, and that an application will be considered by the Design Review Board in April for the south cache site. Risley asked building a cache site at the Sports Park would set a precedent for putting buildings in Parks. Risley stated that she is opposed to the outright placement of buildings in parks. Mays stated that a conditional use permit is required to place a structure in a park. Johnson stated that a citizen asked him if a cache site was even necessary; however, Johnson said that he would support a cache site in the Sports Park.

Motion: Reid moved to support the construction of an emergency cache site at the Sports Park as a conditional use; Johnson seconded the motion.

Vote: Johnson, Knop, Reid, Risley, and Williams voted AYE. The vote was 5/0 in favor and the motion passed.

MEETING TIME

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to hold their regular meetings on the third Thursday of the month, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Trails – Mays summarized the appeal of the Conditional Use Permit to the City Council which was heard on February 2, 2010. The City Council upheld the Planning Commission’s granting of the Conditional Use Permit. The City Council will be voting on the Final Findings of Fact on March 2nd. The appellants have twenty days after that vote to appeal the decision to LUBA, the State Land Use Board of Appeals.

Sculpture Without Walls – Mays summarized the Sculpture Without Walls juror process on February 6, 2010. A location at Madison Park was added and the Les Shirley Park location was deleted. Sculptures were chosen for the Midtown bus shelter and for Tolovana Park. Sculptures will be installed during the month of April and community voting is scheduled for the first weekend in May during *Spring Unveiling*.

Funding for the Arts – Mays reviewed the funding for the arts proposal. Seventy percent of any lodging tax increase must be devoted to tourism. The City Council will be discussing an ordinance and a resolution at the March work session. A special commission would be formed to formulate the criteria for funding and distributing the funds.

Parks History Project -

Reid stated that he had no report.

800 Acres Update

Mays stated that the City is negotiating with the Hamptons to acquire property and trade that for property for State-owned property located east of Hwy. 101. The final appraisals for all of the parcels are underway.

Community Gardens Update

Mays stated that the Sports Park and the ODOT right-of-way property in the Tolovana Park area were rejected as being too remote. In response to a question by Knop, Mays reported that the RV Park was too small. Mays said that several smaller sites may be chosen, rather than one large site. Johnson reported on locations where he had gardened in the past.

Earth Day – Knop stated that a committee has been meeting every week developing *The Twelve Days of Earth*. The galleries and the Chamber of Commerce are involved as well. The events that the Parks Committee is responsible for planning are the potluck on Friday night, the parade, street fair and speakers on Saturday, and a trail walk on Sunday.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Knop adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Stephanie McGuire, Administrative Assistant