

## **PARKS AND REC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**OCTOBER 17, 2024**

**Present:** Amanda Burns, Geoffrey MacDonald, Hosea Mitchell, Jessica Jackson, Ned Michie, Kent Merritt, Jeffrey Fracher, Mark Dennison and Leo Abrahamson (Student Member)

**Absent:** Jackie Webber, Jenny Taylor and Jeanette Abi-Nader

**City:** Riaan Anthony, Will Bassett, Annie Sechrist, Colin Banks, Mike Svetz

**Public Comments:** None

### **Administrative Items:**

**ADMIN-1:** Ned Michie approves September's minutes

### **Action Items:**

#### **A-1 Elections of Vice Chair Ned Michie**

- Reminds Board of need for a new Vice Chair
- Role of Vice Chair meets with Riaan Anthony along with Chair to set the agenda
- Only for next 2 meetings
- Annual Organizational meeting in January where we will select all new officers

### **Information Items:**

#### **I-1 Presentation- Master Plan Update- Mike Svetz PROS Consulting**

- **Trail Connectivity Analysis** focusing on recreational paved trails
- Analysis aims to identify missing segments, expand the shared use system, and prioritize projects
- Existing trails, funded projects, and potential future connections were discussed
- Prioritization criteria include utilization, geographic distribution, land acquisition, and purpose of the trail
- **Framework Plans for Five Specific Parks**

- Plans for each park outline potential improvements and considerations for future development
- Plans are high-level ideas and test fits intended to be flexible and provide opportunities for community input
- **Tonsler Park Framework Plan**
  - Improvements to basketball courts
  - Addition of picnic shelters
  - Refurbishing of concession building
  - Repurposing of sports fields
  - Consider the needs of the immigrant and refugee population in the area
- **Washington Park Framework Plan**
  - Addresses the park's two distinct areas (upper and lower)
  - Proposes adding picnic shelters in lower area
  - Adding restrooms
  - Creating a nature play area
  - Repurposing the baseball field for other uses such as a dog park or community garden
- **Market Street Park Framework Plan**
  - Creating a flexible event space
  - Improving accessibility
  - Balancing the needs of the general public with concerns about the homeless population
  - Widening entryways into the park
  - Adding new seating areas
- **Court Square Framework Plan**
  - Enhanced seating
  - Improved plantings
  - Adding a fountain
- **Kindlewood Park Framework Plan**
  - This is a new redeveloped park in the Friendship Court community
  - Plan includes various amenities such as basketball court, picnic shelter, and community gardens
- December 16<sup>th</sup>- Present to City Council

- December 17<sup>th</sup>- Finalize recommendations and strategies workshop with staff
- December 17<sup>th</sup>- Public meeting/open house at Carver Rec at 6pm
- January/February the Master Plan will go through
  - Public steering committee
  - Parks and Rec Advisory Board
  - Planning Commission
  - City Council

★ **Mike Svetz would like to mention that most of the work was done by Kimberly Horn former LPDA in Charlottesville.**

### **I-2 CIP Updates Riaan Anthony**

- Requested CIP to a formal internal process on October 4<sup>th</sup>
- Working on transferring ARP funds to eligible projects before the end of the year
- Continue working with attorneys on resolving the Angus property issue for the Meadowcreek Trail

### **I-3 2025 Meeting Location Riaan Anthony**

- We have Carver's multipurpose room booked for the entire year
- Meetings will be held on the same day at the same time

**Public Comments:** None

**Chairman's Matters:** Ned Michie

- If possible the City could list our Board vacancies so people see it's available
- May want to create a deadline to apply
- Deadline could be between now and January

Amanda B- Do you have to reapply?

Riaan A- No, it will be an email from the Chair to the City Manager. The City Manager will reappoint them.

**Board Matters:** None

**Director's Matters:**

## **D-1 Budget Update Riaan Anthony**

- Funding request made to DCM for
  - Project Manager
  - Custodial staff
  - Trail Coordinator
  - Inclusion Coordinator
- Recommends that Board draft a letter to the City Manager and Council supporting the dept's staffing requests for the upcoming budget

Amanda B- When do you need that letter?

Riaan A- January/February

- We have a signed contract for the Deputy Director of Parks position. The individual will start Nov 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Also finalizing the hiring process for the Deputy Director of Recreation position.

## **Adjournment: Ned Michie**

Motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm

Motion passes