



RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2019

PUBLISHED BY: AMY RICKMAN
PHONE: 678-297-6102
WWW.ALPHARETTA.GA.US

This summary is provided as a convenience and service to the public, media and staff. It is not the intent to record proceedings verbatim. Any reproduction of this summary must include this notice. Official minutes are recorded and available for review.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Commission Chair Dennis Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

II. ROLL CALL

- Commission members present: Sandy Barth, Shuntel Beach, Dana Davis, Melissa Jurgens, Dennis Mitchell, Cheryl Rand
- Commission absent: Kevin Johnson,
- City staff present: Director of Recreation Parks & Cultural Services Morgan Rodgers, Parks Manager Eric Milley, Wills Park/Equestrian Manager Matt Casey, Project Manager Kurt Kirby, Cultural Arts Manager Kim Zane, Community Services Manager Amanda Musilli, Recreation Services Manager Christine Young, Administrative Assistant II Amy Rickman
- City Council: Jason Binder

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF January 8, 2019

- Motion by Shuntel Beach to approve the minutes of January 8, 2019 as written.
Second by Dana Davis.
- No discussion.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

V. OLD BUSINESS

- Motion by Cheryl Rand to nominate Sandy Barth as Commission Vice-Chair
- Sandy agreed to accept nomination
- Second by Bill Lusby
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Public Art Mural Proposal; location on Marietta Street between Hwy 9/Roswell St.

- Presentation by Alpharetta High School National Art Honors Society students
- Goal – Request commission’s support for overall mural concept in order to proceed with project approval process.
- Next step will be working with Arts Alpharetta to refine the project details, then present to Design and Review Board.
- Commission member comments for consideration as project develops:
 - How will long/short term preservation of image on the wall be handled?
 - Local business to donate paint and supplies?
 - Possibility of incorporating organic material into mural?
 - Students will develop calendar/schedule for painting, clean up, finessing
 - How will signage explain or interpret the message?
 - Drive the public to hashtags or Arts Alpharetta website for more info?
- Dennis – Thank you to students for their presentation; look forward to further development of mural concept

VII. PARTNER ASSOCIATION REPORTS

- A. Put this on a workshop agenda to determine how to complete this going forward

VIII. REPORTS

A. Divisions:

1. Community Services - Amanda Musilli

- Alpharetta Special Events:
 - New features for Taste of Alpharetta and Food Truck Alley
 - Taste – focus on booths, new judges for culinary right down front, beer garden, locally grown area (rebranded from community partners), food-focused activities, i.e. custom spice blending, making homemade butter; partnering with Second Helpings for unserved food
 - Food Truck Alley – local connections, scaling back on food trucks, include food businesses within the city, collaborative project each week
- Marketing:
 - Marketing Strategy complete and ready to be implemented
 - Plans in place to increase awareness and boost registration for programming
 - Morgan – staff will continue to champion for website and splash page improvements, in order to be more customer friendly
- Alpharetta Community Agriculture:
 - Food Well Alliance Community Food Forum – February 27, 6-8pm
 - Greenhouse is growing strong – 700 cool weather plants, first of March for warm weather plants; ready to go to gardeners
 - Volunteers always welcome!

2. Wills Park and Equestrian Center – Matt Casey

- Wills Park:

- Opening Day for AYBA on Saturday, March 2, with a parade of athletes
- Bridge near basketball courts has been replaced; disc golf bridge near Rotary pavilion is being replaced soon as an Eagle Scout project
- Received 12 trees to complete landscaping at Mansell House; trees already on site; awaiting a planting date. Provide more privacy and separation for events at the house
- Concrete patio at Community Center was poured; black metal fence/gate to be installed; tables/seating to be added to help alleviate congestion near gymnastics center.
- Upgrade of side entrance at Recreation Center planned in next few weeks; small storage building to be removed
- Tree canopy raised off side of gym; a low-lying retaining wall and awning to be installed to help with erosion and prevent water from entering gym
- Improvements near Recreation Center will make area more open and safer for park users

3. Cultural Services – Kim Zane

- Art Center Update:
 - Deanna Sirlin show has been installed; nationally renowned local artist
 - Artist Talk held on Saturday, February 23, from 5-7pm
- High School Apprentice Program:
 - Deanna Sirlin to work with 4-5 high school students, based at Crabapple
 - Commitment for two city art projects: baby grand piano at AAC and Webb Zone wall
- AMPS – Alpharetta Music Project Strategy:
 - TRAP – Founder Eddie Tuduri; Rhythmic Arts Project, an educational program utilizing Djembe drums and hand percussion instruments
 - TRAP helps enhance the lives of people with disabilities by teaching participants to read, spell, count, and life skills such as telling time; beats are counted or words sounded out on a drum
 - Teacher Training – Fri/Sat, March 15-16 at the Arts Center; instructor coming from Asheville; participants will be Lionheart, Miracle League, and other music teachers
 - Teachers will be certified in the TRAP program to teach our community; to be added as a city program
- History Update:
 - Farm House – Alpharetta’s original settlement around 1830’s with post office, mill, farms, community; along an old trade route
 - Location – corner of 400 and Old Milton Parkway
 - Site logistics and findings:
 - Metal detector on site found a harmonic reed from 1800’s
 - Clearing site for ground-penetrating radar to work; able to scan down 15 feet

- Working with Community Development to possibly re-route storm water drainage pipe around site; Morgan's comments regarding new development
- Possible future site for a Farmhouse Community Heritage Park

4. Park Services – Eric Milley

- City Hall area:
 - Working to get fountain operational at the Village Green
 - Having some trees and bushes replaced around City Hall
 - Greens to be top-dressed and aerated
- Greenway:
 - Boardwalk section replacement to begin early March; currently closed
- Webb Bridge Park:
 - Replacing additional support poles at playground
 - Working on several drainage areas, cleaning out headwalls, adding rock
 - Enhancing landscaped entrance at Webb Zone
- North Park:
 - In partnership with AYSA, all fields to be laser-graded and lips cut out
 - Trees to be selectively removed or pruned away from Activity Center; getting quotes for painting the building exterior
- Other:
 - Working to get the well operational at Rucker
 - Doing tree work at all new park properties

5. Recreation Services – Christine Young

- Programs:
 - Spring registration is ongoing for programs starting in early March
 - Summer Guide available in print/online this week
 - Summer registration starts March 6 for city residents; opens March 20 for non-residents
- Athletics:
 - AYSA started softball practices the first of February
 - Ambush soccer practices started this week
 - Spring Adult Softball/Basketball, Teen Basketball leagues have begun
- Community Center:
 - Alpharetta Gymnastics Academy recently achieved numerous awards
 - Our Lionheart intern, Nick, became an employee; first to transition to our work force. Christine is now on Lion Works Board, which focuses on providing training, work place prep, and real life skills for ages 18-23
- Wellness:
 - Couch-to-5K begins March 4
 - Walk-to-a-Healthier-You begins March 6
- Other:
 - Polar Plunge held at the pool on February 2; raised over \$30,000 for Public Safety; Police/Fire personnel hosted a Chili Cook-off afterwards

6. Project Management – Kurt Kirby

- Happening now:
 - North Park Turf Field 1 is in use; some grounds work still to be completed
 - Park Call Boxes – finalizing install schedule; wet weather slowing process
 - Webb Bridge Park – new scoreboards have been produced and shipped to installer; waiting on drier conditions to schedule install
 - Mansell House – sign in production; estimated install around early March
 - Park Signs – RFP for updating; working with on-call design firm ALTA
 - Trails – RFQ for new park trail development and current trail repairs
 - Wills Park Pool:
 - RFP for pool maintenance has been advertised
 - Shoring up shade structures at the pool; four structures to be installed
 - Greenway:
 - Boardwalk repairs to start end of month, weather permitting
 - Greenway Virtual Tour complete; done by Kurt and Amanda

B. Director Update – Morgan Rodgers

- New park development:
 - Windward Soccer Complex plan, to be known as Windward Park
 - Mid-Broadwell Park preliminary design, similar to Cogburn Road Park
 - Parking considerations being thought through; met with owners behind park area, who suggested a tree barrier; proposal for a more natural playground area (refer to drawings)
- City wide staff projects currently underway:
 - Budgets due this week
 - Annual staff evaluations due soon
- Budget:
 - Restructuring budget to reflect new structure of operations
 - Parks – To operate budget in park districts (N/S/E/W/Downtown), which will assist in tracking how much spent in each park
 - Recreation – To operate new programs with reallocated former funds
 - Cultural Arts – To reflect first full year of arts center operations
 - Community Services – To align with how special events are managed, organized, or seek sponsors. Community Agriculture Program budget established. Marketing strategy developed as a roadmap to tell our story
 - Three asks for new money in FY20 budget: Tree removal for diseased trees; Additional shavings for Equestrian Center, to be offset by sales; Funds for marketing strategy going forward
 - Capital Improvement Projects reorganized; items combined to reduce overall count of CIP projects (i.e. Wills Park improvements)
- Shuntel – Is there a budget line item for the Miracle League, similar to Lionheart?
- Morgan – Lionheart is part of a new arts grant funding initiative, along with other arts groups under the Arts Alpharetta umbrella

- Shuntel – Could we add a line item to the budget for Miracle League to support their work and programs?
- Jason Binder, addressing the Miracle League proposal: We should consider how to frame this as a bigger strategic request for overall special needs programming expansion, and how to jointly address between other municipalities with Crabapple Government Center as the activity hub, and what deliverables set for all involved

C. City Council – Jason Binder

- Council Retreat: One of best retreats attended; shared perspective of retreat outcomes
- Capital Improvements – focus on telling our story better and tailor requests for existing asset improvements and prioritized new developments
- Expanding scope to develop oasis areas for residents not currently served as well
- New parks in development: Old Rucker Road Park, Windward Park, Mid-Broadwell
- Kimball/Waters, Union Hill – on hold; possible staging areas for bigger projects
- Wills Park – big focal point with Master Plan is the Equestrian Center barn relocation
- Connecting Recreation Center to Community Center more easily through trail network; destination entries for park with seamless travel; dog park improvements
- Commission – Where does restroom restoration/replacement fall in overall plan? Priority from commission would be for restroom improvements over new sign entries
- Greenway video – used to show importance of developing a plan to address larger greenway issues now, to alleviate ongoing smaller issues all the time
- Milton Agreement – residents on both sides discussing now; two cities are good partners; coming to table to figure out what a future agreement could look like; trying to emphasize concept of parks without borders; shared resources/costs for residents
- Cheryl – Inquiry about not seeing plans for Windward Park in packet?
- Jason – Windward Park plans included involvement by public and approval by council two years ago; plans are similar to Cogburn Road Park

IX. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

A. None

X. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Cheryl Rand. Second by Bill Lusby.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**
- Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm
- Next Commission meeting: March 12, 2019 at 7:00pm