



RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2020

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I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2019

- Motion by Cheryl Rand to approve the minutes of December 10, 2019 as written.
Second by Scott Doll.
- No discussion.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

V. OLD BUSINESS – none

VI. NEW BUSINESS – none

VII. REPORTS

A. Divisions:

1. Community Services – Amanda Musilli

- Alpharetta Events:
 - Food Truck Alley:
 - Moving to once/month in 2020
 - 2nd Thursday, May-October
 - Event originally started to boost business, bring people downtown, and create a social gathering place. Goal was successful, although at the beginning only a handful of other food choices available downtown. Now, the options have risen to a few dozen restaurants or eateries in the downtown area. To continue frequency of food trucks every week would compete with brick and mortar businesses. Feedback to make decision was gathered from surveys and discussion with attendees, business leaders, and council.
 - Taste of Alpharetta:
 - 30th Anniversary this year! Tagline for event...
 - Savoring local flavors for 30 years; Celebrating food of Alpharetta
 - Expanded footprint this year, across Hwy 9, to create a better experience for attendees. Will mirror footprint of Wire 'n Wood
 - Zero Waste area offered to compost a small portion of event waste, with educational signage. Compost Now to do a trial run this year; if successful with enough restaurant participation, will expand for 2021
 - Reply to commissioner – twinkling holiday lights staying up until Valentine's Day weekend, per request of businesses, to maintain a festive nighttime look in City Center
- Marketing:
 - Summer Activity Guide:
 - Goes to print February 3
 - Showcases all summer camps with Recreation/Cultural Services
 - Includes City-sponsored community offerings, i.e. wellness, aquatics
 - Changes to Food Truck/Taste Events:
 - More marketing to spread the word in the community
 - Additional online/print marketing coming this spring
- Alpharetta Community Agriculture:

- Terraces in place for new location of Community Garden. Construction of terrace with timber/large stones found in area. Volunteer work project.
- Seeds for 2020 growing season placed in trays by agriculture students
- Food Well Alliance Grant for farm fence; \$10K check has been mailed
- 2019 Annual Report – handout provided. Created by Emily Dillard for Community Garden members; great example of visual tool to report out to community and council

2. Wills Park and Equestrian Center – Matt Casey

- Equestrian Center
 - Old maintenance barn has now been demolished. Gap in fence filled in to match existing ring fence
 - Wills Park Equestrian Foundation now has green light to continue to raise funds for improvements in that area of the facility
- Wills Park:
 - Gateway Playground has been completed, with nine new inclusive play components added to the existing structure. Footprint grew with fitness components added earlier, which are used daily.
 - New sculpture installed in common area between dog park and upper fields, where former butterfly garden was located. “Coming Together” is first sculpture within the park , provided by Arts Alpharetta. Have option to purchase the sculpture after the on-loan exhibit run ends.
 - Butterfly garden will be relocated elsewhere in the park

3. Cultural Services – Kim Zane

- Cultural Happenings:
 - Small Works, Alpharetta Arts Guild Exhibit ... Avalon, Jan 1- Feb 29
 - Natural Expressions Exhibit, GA Natures Photographers ... Arts Center, Jan 6- Feb 29 ... opening on Jan 25, 5-7pm
 - Post Offices of Alpharetta & Old Milton County, Historical Society ... Mansell House, Jan 17, 7pm
 - Alpharetta Music City ... artist/time TBD ... Never Enough Thyme, Jan 18
 - Alpharetta Music City ... Greg Fortune ... Botiwalla, Jan 23, 6-8pm
 - Nature Matters, Movie Monday ... Arts Center, Jan 27, 6:30-8:30pm
 - Book Sale, Friends of the Alpharetta Library ... Feb 1, 10am-4pm
 - Alpharetta Music City ... Johan Rodriguez ... The Red Hound, Feb 8, 6-8pm
 - Alpharetta Youth Symphony Orchestra Concert ... Arts Center, Feb 9, 3pm
- Arts Center:

- Art Cart Program ... bringing art into the community by repurposing former police cart; wrapping cart for visual appeal; bring to events. Street ready for use under 35 miles/hour
- Cultural Services Art Grant ... checks being mailed now, with awarded funds going to nine non-profits
- New monthly free programs at the Arts Center ... more details to come
- Alliance Theater ... Family Day, April 18 ... Summer Theater Camps
- Exhibits in the Gallery ... 2020 schedule finalized
- History Update:
 - Historic Map Project ... partnered with Alpharetta/Old Milton County Historical Society and City departments of Information Technology and Community Development, to scan over 220 oversized maps to include in history museum kiosk
- Music / AMPS (Alpharetta Music Project Strategy):
 - Music Match Program ... 2020 schedule kicks off this month
 - Forage & Flourish ... new contemporary music festival ... June 5-10 ... Nathan Hudson, Alpharetta native, hosting a weeklong festival in town with music written by contemporary musicians; offering workshops, concerts, and camps for high school students
 - Podcast ... “How a Song can Change a Life” ... Listen & Lunch in February
 - Home By Dark Rehearsals ... Friday nights at Art Center black box, prior to Saturday’s summer concerts in Brooke Street Park
 - Supportive of high school initiatives in music....
- Public Art:
 - Omnium Gatherum Exhibit ... sculptures installed; creating new Walking Tour brochure to highlight walkability of where sculptures were placed
 - Alpharetta Business Association ... 25th Anniversary sculpture installation as a giveback to the city ... three versions, representative of fiber optics in the city ... Arts Alpharetta to make recommendations, then presentation given to Commission and Council for review
 - Webb Zone Gate ... Alpharetta High School Apprentices Program developed eight proposals and will be working on design
 - LionArtisans Mural ... Partnership through Cultural Services Grant Program; to be installed on wall near adaptive playground at Wills Park

4. Park Services – Eric Milley

- General Projects:
 - Old Rucker Park ... well at farm is operational ... over 70-foot depth
 - Silos Park ... restoration/paint completed on silos
 - Cogburn Park ... overgrown shrubs removed around sign and restroom
- Tree Replacement Projects ... City Center tree wells, Westside Fitness Park
- Webb Bridge Park:
 - Working on three planting projects ... pedestrian bridge near entrance, parking lot median by lower soccer field, parking lot median by upper soccer field
- In process of filling two open Maintenance Tech I positions

5. Recreation Services – Christine Young

- Annual Report – infographics included in presentation
- Recreation Strategy – new plan and goals developed by staff; handout
- Other news:
 - Father Daughter Dance, Feb 8, Alpharetta Community Center
 - Polar Plunge at Wills Park Pool, Feb 8, sponsored by Rotary Club as fundraiser, with Cook Your Butts Off barbeque in parking lot afterwards

6. Project Management – Kurt Kirby

- Park Development:
 - Windward Community Park ... Construction Phase
 - Playground has been installed as first phase
 - Working through slow process with Fulton County Water/Sewer regarding restroom installation
 - Potential grand opening in early April
 - Mid-Broadwell Park ... Design Phase
 - Council approved design contract with Pond & Company
 - Survey currently being conducted
 - Potential opening date from details
 - Own personality to the park
- Wayfinding and Signage Replacement:

- Phase 1 ... Park Entrance Signs
 - Replaced – North Park, Cogburn Road Park, Rock Mill Park, Northpoint Park Greenway Access
 - In Production – Haynes Bridge Park Greenway Access
- Phase 2 ... Wills Park Signs
 - In Design – Trail route map for kiosk
 - In Production – Trail wayfinding signs
 - Potential to be completed in February
- Phase 3 ... Wills Park Signs
 - Upcoming: Entry signs, Vehicle wayfinding signs (i.e. direct to fields)
 - Shout out to Cara Prell who has been working on signs with designer, and to Nate Hand who has been assisting with construction phases

B. Director Update – Morgan Rodgers

- Been here almost three years now, we're having a great time, and hopefully this is being conveyed to our community and to the Commission
- List of Parks – handout:
 - More parks in Alpharetta than folks are aware of
 - List is categorized by City of Alpharetta Parks, Undeveloped Park Properties, and Specialized Facilities
 - Highlights for specific park locations:
 - Beaver Creek Park – end of the greenway in Alpharetta; from Mansell turn right onto Northside Parkway, park begins at end of the road; behind AMLI property; access to greenway trail
 - Brookside Park – location of fishing derby at lake in park; currently no parking; meet with businesses to possibly secure designated parking spots; near Northpoint Community Church bridge; try to determine adjacent property ownership to gain right of way access to park and open trail to nearby community residents
- Project Timelines – handout:
 - Windward Community Park – grand reopening April 20
 - Wills Park Maintenance Shop – construction to begin June 20
 - Mid-Broadwell Park – final inspection phase, June 20
 - Old Rucker Park – by end of January, two design concepts from architect; host three public input meetings, one at farm and two at city hall; ideas incorporated into updated design; back to public, Commission, Council; goal is for timeline to be completed by end of April, with one of public meeting to be held prior to February Commission meeting from 5-7pm

- For Council Retreat, update prepared to capital project needs, to align with council comments and requests; changes below:
 - Tier 2: Develop Farmhouse Heritage Park (vs. just Master Plan)
 - Tier 2: Union Hill – trailhead and park development, in conjunction with expansion of greenway
 - Tier 3: Replace all wood poles at athletic fields with metal, LED lights; budget slightly increased based on quote
- Commission question regarding project details for Milton Avenue Park; Morgan stated this budget item is just a placeholder; details will be developed later
- Westside Parkway Park – current entrance is off Westside, but no parking available; developer of new subdivision creating a new entry access to park from Maxwell Road; at a later date, will be presenting Commission with consideration to rename this facility as Maxwell Road Park; will keep Westside Parkway access

C. City Council – none

VIII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Dana Davis. Second by Melissa Jurgens.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**
- Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm
- Next Commission meeting: February 11 at 7:00 pm