



RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL
SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

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I. CALL TO ORDER

- Commission Chair Dennis Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

II. ROLL CALL

- Commission members present: Sandy Barth, Shuntel Beach, Dana Davis, Scott Doll, Dennis Mitchell, Cheryl Rand, Jit Saha
- Commission members absent: Kevin Johnson, Melissa Jurgens
- 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; Cultural Services Manager, Kim Zane; Administrative Office Coordinator, Valerie Jackson
- City Council:

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF August 11, 2020

- Motion by Cheryl Rand to approve the minutes of August 11, 2020 as written. Second by Sandy Barth.
- No discussion.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

V. OLD BUSINESS

- AYSA Residency Requirement request was brought to Mayor Gilvin who ultimately decided to keep policy as it is. Mayor Gilvin felt issue had been resolved a year ago and only a one year extension of the Memorandum of Understanding was granted at that time. City of Alpharetta would be willing to meet with City of Milton regarding this subject again in the future

VI. NEW BUSINESS – none

VII. REPORTS

A. Divisions:

1. Community Services – Amanda Musilli

- Alpharetta Events
 - Scarecrow Harvest – this event typically receives 100 to 110 applications and they have received 108 to date
 - Currently finalizing winter holiday décor plan for downtown. Is in process of pricing out snow making supplies for Fridays in December using snow machines purchased a couple of years ago
 - All City events thru end of year have been cancelled
- Marketing
 - Played big role in receiving so many applications for Scarecrow Harvest. All credit goes to Emily Shively – she has done an amazing job
 - Scarecrow Harvest “People’s Choice Award” upcoming on Facebook from October 6th – 13th.
- Alpharetta Community Agriculture
 - Transitioning to fall. Harvest has lessened to 100-200 pounds per week
 - Lionheart WORKS held Farm Volunteer Day
 - Georgia Pollinator Count 2020 held on August 22
 - Flower Arrangement class held on August 27
 - Fall Seed & Plant pickup was September 12
 - Awarded a Soil3Grant from FoodWell Alliance & Atlanta Botanical Gardens

2. Project Management – Kurt Kirby

- Mid-Broadwell Park
 - Still in design phase. Scope of the design has been revised to focus on restroom installation which we hope to have installed before Thanksgiving
 - Permitting has been submitted to Community Development
- Alpharetta Elementary School Park
 - Project has been completed and grand opening will be September 25th
- Innovation Academy Athletic Facility Renovations (Old Milton High School)
 - Structural engineer’s assessment of building has been presented. Will be sandblasting the stadium’s metal support beams to ensure structure is sound
 - Meer Electric is preparing an estimate for all athletic lighting
- Greenway

- Greenway bridge streambank restoration at Kimball Bridge Road using gabion baskets and rock to protect the bridge structure has been completed
- Phase 2 of Big Creek tree removal project will begin in October. Will focus on Rock Mill Park north to Preston Ridge Road. This new reoccurring program will identify fallen trees in the creek that will impact the greenway
- Storm Response
 - 4 major projects due to heavy rains in August
 - Wills Park Pedestrian Bridge
 - Collapsing garage and retaining wall at Old Rucker Farm
 - Drainage enhancements at Grand Pavilion
 - Drainage enhancements at new Alpharetta Elementary playground have been completed

3. **Park Services – Eric Milley**

- Greenway
 - Clearing the trail from heavy August rains. Trail itself was cleared rather quickly but there was major erosion and debris along the trails
- Bike Aid Stations
 - Two scout projects installed bike aid stations at Marconi and Preston Ridge
- Webb Bridge Park
 - After storms in August washed out areas along the trails, mulch and slate are being replenished along with other areas of the park
- North Park
 - The goats are back and are eating the underbrush alongside Fields 6 and 7, as well as around the tennis courts to the road. Goats will next go to the Log Cabin off Milton Avenue
- Innovation Academy
 - Trash and underbrush cleanup underway, along with painting over graffiti and securing the press box
- Alpharetta Elementary
 - Currently enhancing the landscape that surrounds island where the playground is located

4. **Wills Park – Matt Casey**

- Recreation Center & Playground
 - Area completely flooded after storms. Wood bridge was pulled from foundation and is currently alongside a culvert on Wills Road
 - Working with insurance, storm water and contractors to repair. Hoping to open new bridge within next few weeks
 - Mulch was replaced on playground

- New retaining wall installed at Recreation Center
- Community Center
 - Repaired and replaced concrete walkways beside Community Center. This will increase accessibility for facility and community
- Lionheart School Walkway
 - New slate trail connecting to school. This trail was uneven mulch previously that now has a solid surface as a walking trail. Will help to prevent erosion in future

5. **Cultural Services – Kim Zane**

- Upcoming Cultural Happenings
 - Resthaven Cemetery Tombstone Cleaning
 - *Mix It Up* – Alpharetta Arts Center Gallery – September 28
 - *Music Match* – 11 new shows
 - *An Evening with Shakespeare* – Wills Park Grand Pavilion – October 9 & 1
- Arts Center Updates
 - Implementing new, shorter class and workshop formats
 - High School Apprenticeship program is working on Windward Crosswalk Mural
 - *Art Studio on the Go-Go* – free and paid outdoor programming
- Music/AMPS (Alpharetta Music Project Strategy)
 - Podcast broadcasted “A Song Can Change Your Life”
 - Music Match Program – 11 new shows
- Public Art
 - Cultural Arts Commission
 - Alpha Loop Connection Mural
 - Crosswalk Murals – Working on first concept design
 - Windward Community Park
 - Alpharetta Elementary

6. **Recreation Services – written report was provided by Christine Young, who did not attend meeting**

- Programming Update
 - The last public swim of 2020 was on September 7th. Senior swim, stand up paddleboard and water aerobics will continue thru September
- Health & Wellness
 - Park P.E. started today. This is a drop-in 1.25 hour P.E. program for Kindergarten thru 8th grade – FREE
 - Music with Movement for ages 2-4 in the Grand Pavilion, 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 11:00 a.m.

- New Free Fitness schedule is available online – outdoor classes will continue thru October/November, weather permitting
- Running club started yesterday. Meets Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. in Wills Park - FREE
- Athletics
 - After-School Program started on August 24th and averages 13 school age kids per day. Program will continue after school goes back in session. We will evaluate attendance at that time and make decision based on community need
- Adult Activity Center
 - Silver Spokes on Greenway – 2nd and 4th Friday
 - Outdoor Fitness Classes in Miracle League Pavillion – Yoga, Tai Chi, Line Dancing and Bingo
 - Planning for soft opening in October, dependent upon Governor's orders at that time
- Fall Registration
 - Registration is down 80% from 2019; this does not include participation in free programming
- Upcoming Events
 - Drool in the Pool will be held on September 27th from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Walktober starts on October 1st

B. Director Update – Morgan Rodgers

- Recently attended 1 day Council retreat at Hotel at Avalon. Budget and transportation issues were main topics
- Wills Park Maintenance Shop is on track, as well as arena at Equestrian Center. Designing inside of maintenance shop now. Will go out to bid in December, then to commission first and then to council. Ideal to have both projects underway at same time
- Arts Council – next Monday will be first reading of Cultural Arts Commission ordinance
- Park Rules – scheduled for a workshop with Council on September 28th and October 5th. Will be approved on October 19th and then signs can be posted

C. City Council – none

VIII. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Jit Saha. Second by Scott Doll.
- **All in favor. Motion carried**

- Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm
- Next Commission meeting: October 13 at 6:30 pm