



RECREATION COMMISSION WORKSHOP
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT
MAY 25, 2022
ALPHARETTA CITY HALL
COMMUNITY ROOM | 2 PARK PLAZA | 5:00 PM

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I. WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENTS

This meeting agenda is for workshop purposes only. Items will be discussed by the members of the Board or Commission, but no formal action will be taken on today's agenda items.

II. CALL TO ORDER

- Chairman Mitchell called the workshop to order at 5:00 p.m.

III. ROLL CALL

- Recreation Commission Members

- Chairman Dennis Mitchell
- Cheryl Rand, Commissioner
- Jit Saha, Vice Chairman
- Shuntel Beach, Commissioner
- Jeremy Scott, Commissioner

Commissioners John Norton, Karla Piedrahita, and Brad Bowers arrived at 5:30 p.m.

- Staff

- Morgan Rodgers, Director of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Services
- Amber O'Dwyer, Executive Office Coordinator

Kurt Kirby, Project Manager, arrived at 5:30 p.m.

IV. WORKSHOP ITEMS

A. Wills Park Update

- Director of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Services, Morgan Rodgers, came forward to present this item.
- The rocks on site are to be replaced with a large wall.
- The Equestrian Center footings are a mix of synthetic fiber and sand are to be installed soon.
- The storm water drain running through Wills Park that needs to be addressed.

- Currently there are three maintenance, restoration projects funded for FY23. Staff is currently preparing to send out bids for vendors.
 - Chairman Mitchell inquired about the grandstand's status.
 - Director Rodgers let him know the project was still in the conceptualization phase.

B. Park Rules Update

- Chairman Mitchell requested an update on park rules for special events entrusted from the City Council to the Recreation Commission.
 - Director Rodgers stated the rules were revisited by City Council. Rules have always included that you cannot ride motorized vehicles on the Greenway. This has now been expanded to include the Alpha Loop.
 - In addition, the Recreation Commission has been granted judiciary responsibility for approved special event spaces and alcohol permitting to include determining which venues will have alcohol permits for both one-time and on-going events.
 - Currently alcohol permits are allowed at the Mansell House and Equestrian Center. It is up to the Recreation Commission to determine additional locations.

C. Taste of Alpharetta

- Vice Chairman Saha inquired about the success of the Taste of Alpharetta.
 - Director Rodgers stated the event had a great turn out (50,000+ attendees).
 - Staff believed closing HWY 9 worked out well, though in future years will try to bring more activity to the east side of HWY 9 to alleviate congestion. This would not entail more vendors but rather scale the event to Market Street for better spread logistically.
- Vice Chairman Saha stated noticeably long lines and asked what could be done to alleviate this for future events?
 - Suggestions included, potentially limiting the number of attendees, tickets on an appointment schedule, etc.

D. "A" Sculpture

- Director Rodgers gave a brief history of the "A" Sculpture and stated the "A" was gifted to the City and approved at the City Council Meeting on Monday, May 23. The Cultural Arts Commission is discussing how to proceed with the "A" whether to remove or restore and plan to vote on the issue at the June 28 Cultural Arts Commission Meeting.

E. Park Bonds Update

- Project Manager, Kurt Kirby, presented this item.
 - Mid-Broadwell Park
 - Staff hope to have designs approved by mid-June. They are using Sourcewell to seek vendors which is a government pre-approved vendor listing.
 - Alpharetta's First, Kid-Driven Committee took place.
 - Kids (ages 5-9) looked at options and selected a company for a playground. They also requested "wish lists" from kids to help conceptualize design.
 - The Committee went well and will not be the last of its kind.
 - Webb Bridge Park Turf Replacement
 - Septic lines under the green are leading to wet fields. This is delaying construction to next summer given conditions.
 - Meetings are taking place to determine next steps, alternatives.

- Commissioner Rand asked if the city could not replace the septic restrooms onsite with portable toilets to then replace the turf. Could the solution be to resolve half the problem now (sewer lines) and replace the turf later?
- Commissioner Piedrahita asked if this was an old issue.
- Due to the field's green being replaced with turf and not a re-greening, it is a new issue. Fixing the issue all together would double budgeted costs. Bond also states the city will replace the turf so navigating away from this idea to do partial work would require Council approval.

F. Additional Bond Projects:

- Project Manager, Kurt Kirby, presented this item.
- Request for proposals are in process for many of the other bond projects. The goal is to review proposals, narrow down the selection, and then seek approval for the selected vendor. Proposals are to be reviewed after Memorial Day.
 - Commissioner Rand asked if all projects were design-build.
 - Project Manager Kirby stated it depended on the park and project as to whether it is a design only proposal (with another contractor for the build) or design/build proposal with one vendor.
 - Chairman Mitchell asked if there was any push back from the equestrian community regarding the timeline for the equestrian arena completion.
 - Director Rodgers stated that as the equestrian community approved of the chosen contractor, they are understanding of delays regarding the arena completion and that they are contributed to the vendor and not the city.
 - Commissioner Rand asked for clarity on design risk issues for The Farm's park design stating key users of the farm have various visions for the park.
 - Staff stated communication is key and the project is to compliment The Farm; not remodel The Farm as well. The goal is to preserve the integrity of the space while making it a community park with basic amenities.

V. ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Chairman Mitchell announced the new Commission Member Brad Bowers.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- With there being no further business to hear or discuss, Chairman Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber O'Dwyer, Executive Office Coordinator