



**Mission Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission Meeting Minutes
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021**

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

The PRT Commission met via zoom on Monday September 20, 2021, at 6PM.

In attendance: Jacque Gameson, Anne O’Leary, Mark Raduziner, Emily Rollheiser, Karin Capron, David Schwenk, Mary Ryherd, Mellissa Currie + Hillary Parker-Thomas, Council Liaison

Kathy Lockard and Penn Almoney represented staff.

Absent: Ben Chociej, Kim Weir, Amy Warren, and Nick Schlossmacher, Council Liaison.

Anne O’Leary called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

REVIEW

Approve Minutes

On page 5- Change the word conversion to “conversation”
Last item – change the word noting to nothing.
Hillary’s comment on trees - page 4 – K.C. Climate Actions

Mark Raduziner moved to approve with the changes.

Jacque Gameson seconded the motion.

Motion carried – 8-0

Waterworks Park Public Mtg Feedback

Penn shared that there were ten patrons and ten staff/council members in attendance. He shared many of the comments from the patrons and staff.

The consensus from almost everyone in attendance was they were happy this was moving forward.

Penn shared his notes with members and then asked for comments.

Jacque stated she felt the meeting was very well organized and it was great that patrons were able to break out into individualized groups.
Penn agreed.

The next step is to review this information with the stakeholders. Penn has not heard back on a date from them.
Have the meeting once the date has been set, compile all the comments and then present to the council on all the parks.
The meeting with Council could possibly be scheduled for October.

It was discussed to consider moving this park in front of some of the other parks due to keeping up with the construction/rebuild of Rushton Elementary School.

Jacque had asked about the cost and requested Penn share it with the members.

Penn shared the cost has been benchmarked around the 1 million to 1.2 million dollar cost. He feels this price is reasonable.

Just because this park is not owned by the City does not mean it should not be improved. Based on park count usage being compiled by the City of Mission Parks Technician, Waterworks is the highest used park.

WaterOne is behind the City for the improvements which is great.

5 yr CIP

Penn shared the program plan with the members and reminded them that this is a working document

He starts to revise in March for the upcoming budget year.

First column is 2020 and any item in green has been pushed to 2021 due to lack of revenue.

Due to Covid – some of those projects were pushed to future years.

Tennis court resurfacing – bids came in higher than anticipated.

Some of the items have been added to the FICP (Facility Improvement Construction Program), assisting with programs as to not break the bank.

Penn shared that it is difficult for some of the items that can not be seen such as HVAC. It needs to be taken care of to save money in the future.

Penn shared 2022 Mohawk Park Concept, waiting to hear on the Water Conservation Grant to assist with the improvements. The Water Conservation group is hoping to make a decision by the end of the fiscal year. Penn is still hoping to receive the grant.

Indoor Track resurfacing has been on the FICP for years. The feasibility study on the PCC will give us an idea if this is still needed.

Jacque asked where Waterworks Park fits in and Penn stated that this is a working/breathing document and will continue to be updated.

Anne asked what is the Rushton School Rebuild timeline? Penn stated that he has reached out but has not heard back from Principal Fornal.

Anne stated that what stood out to her was the replacement of the chairs at the Community Center.

She stated that they have been replaced several times, but she feels that items in the parks need to be put on the five-year rotation plan, instead of just replacement items for the Community Center.

Penn stated that we can certainly add those items into the plan, improving the park assets.

Mark shared that he feels like patrons want to see work being completed in the parks and that is how we are going to get the sales tax renewed. Benches, trash cans, etc. are items being replaced to physically see improvements.

Mark stated that people want to see improvements in the parks, not just the Community Center.

Need to show them concrete examples in the parks.

Penn stated that the city will be creating a flyer similar to the one that was completed for the street improvement tax that will go out to patrons.

Penn will share the flyer with the committee before it goes live.

Hillary stated that she agreed with Anne and Mark and that council members want to see the money going to improvements in the parks. Hillary reminded everyone that the original sales tax was pitching the new aquatic center which has not been paid off yet, but is to be paid off this year. She also stated that she did not feel the Community Center Track needs to be replaced.

She supports the PRT.

Anne hopes that it will not be an either or but it should be both parks and the Community Center.

Anne would like to see more items on the plan such as the Broadmoor Park Trail.

Hillary added that patrons stated that we need more tangible items in the parks.

PRT should have a formal discussion every year with Penn on what improvements need to be added to the parks.

He heard and will add the discussion to next year's calendar. It has been added to February 2022 on the calendar for the CIP review.

Karin asked about Mohawk Park – is anything happening with Mohawk?

Penn reported that there has been a delay as we are waiting on news regarding the Conservation Fund Grant.

We still need to have a discussion regarding parking with the stakeholders.

Penn stated that we need to have a count on traffic.

Penn shared that Overland Park may be interested in a stake on the update of Mohawk Park.

The million dollars that has been set aside has been for the bathroom and pavilion.

Penn hopes to also make the trail wider and hopefully make it all concrete.

Currently we are just shooting for Phase 1A and 1B – the bathroom and the pavilion.

Second phase would be adding playground equipment and trails and the final phase would be the parking.

Anne stated that we need to have an end goal in mind.

Penn stated that the items were not included on the CIP until we get the formal green light on the Parks and Rec Sales Track Renewal.

Anne stated that we need to continue to keep this on the calendar.

60 Trees

Mary Rhyherd shared that a neighbor had planted a tree to take our count to 61. She reminded everyone to talk to their neighbors about any trees they have planted.

Mellissa asked how this worked and Penn stated that it is any trees planted in 2021.

Mellissa stated that her and her husband planted nine trees which brings us to the seventy total goal we were working towards for 2021.

She shared the types of trees and emailed the information to Penn.

Lido Villas planted twenty Evergreen trees right along Shawnee Mission Parkway.

Jacque has also planted a tree in Mohawk Park, and Ken Davis also contributed to the count.

Congrats to everyone for reaching our goal!

Penn has been sharing the information with the Community Center Members and he will put some things on the website. Penn will let Emily know we have reached our goal of seventy trees.

Laura Smith is investing in some trees at the Mission Market site so we should have a nice number by the end of the year.

Penn share the benefits of our ecosystem with the number of trees in our Parks.

Tree Prune Contract

Three vendors came out for bids.

Hendrickson has proposed a multi-year contract.

Arbor Masters taking care of several parks.

Penn and Taylor are caring for a park.

Bridging the Gap is assisting, so all of the parks are being cared for.

This should help for the next two years and we will continue to have someone take care of our trees in the parks.

Sustainability Commission Invite

Amy was not in attendance, so we do not have a report.

A shredding event sponsored with several surrounding cities was shared with the members.

Anne asked for a rep to attend The Sustainability Commission Meeting on Monday, October 4th at 6:30. Emily Rollheiser will attend.

DISCUSSION

Park Code Analysis

Penn shared information from Payne and Jones.

Anne asked for clarification between hiking trail and walking trail.

Walking trail – specifically walking – no other devices.

Hiking trail is more specific.

Use multi-purpose trail – which Anne would like to see all our trails as multi-purpose trails.

The wording from Payne and Jones just makes it more legal.

Anne agrees with the last sentence.

Penn suggested to reconvening their committee to go over the recommendations from Payne and Jones and then bring them back to the entire committee before taking them to the Council.

Jacque was asking about article #2.

Penn clarified that it was to clear up the language, but we do not have a fitness course so we do not need it.

Jacque asked if we need to have another article to include fitness since we may be updating the parks.

Anne suggested that if that changes then we would go back and add that into the code.

Penn will set up a meeting with Anne and Mark to go over the recommendations from Payne and Jones and then bring them back to the entire committee.

ID Plaques Cmte, location (TreeKeeper Map)

Jacque and Committee – shared the Tree Plaque locations.

Jacque asked Mellissa if she would like to rejoin the committee and Mellissa stated she would like to continue.

The Tree ID Plaque Committee is Jacque Gameson, Karin Capron, Mary Ryherd and Mellissa Currie.

The group will try to identify thirteen trees with plaques every year.

Jacque stated that it was first discussed to identify trees in Mohawk, but she then suggested to identify the trees in the Mission Market area.

Identify another at Waterworks and then the remaining nine in Mohawk – the mature trees, not the newly planted.

Plaques cost about seventy-five dollars and Public Works has put together the posts. Jacque asked if we should switch out to a sturdier post since the lawnmowers tend to get them. Penn stated that the posts are easily replaceable and so Jacque stated they would remain with the current posts.

Jacque shared the groves of trees at Waterworks Parks. Jacque stated that the nine trees are all around the playground except the gum trees are along the fence. Jacque stated that the plaque would be for each group of particular trees.

Jacque will put together a date for the committee to meet.

Anne thanked Jacque and the committee for their work.

Anne suggested to put on the calendar for Hillary to share any information from the Council at the next meeting.

Jacque was glad to see the Arbor Day Poster Contest on the calendar. Posters will be due on February 4th in Manhattan.

Penn stated that the Mission Family Picnic will be on Saturday, October 9th and shared some of the activities that are planned for the event.

Looks like fireworks will not be on the agenda, but we can save the money to spend in the future.

Penn invited everyone to assist starting at 4pm.

Anne suggested sending out requests for help.

Jacque complimented Penn on the Activity Guide and the clarification of the Parks.

Next meeting is October 18th.

Jacque Gameson moved to adjourn the meeting.

Karin Capron seconded the motion.

Motion carried – 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Faithfully submitted by Kathy Lockard, Administrative Supervisor

