



PARKS, RECREATION + TREE COMMISSION MEETING

June 20, 2022

**DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED**

The PRT Commission met at the Powell Community Center Conference Room E on Monday, June 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

In attendance: Anne O’Leary, Jacque Gameson, Mark Raduziner, Kevin Schmidt, Nicole Sullivan, Warren Hayes, Kim Weir and non-resident member, Jay Fleer.

Penn Almoney represented staff.

Absent: Cindy Long, Ryan Casey, Council member liaisons Mary Ryherd and Lea Loudon.

Guest: No guests were present at today’s meeting.

Anne called the meeting to order at 6:06pm and commenced round robin welcome/introductions.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Jacque suggested an edit of the minutes to reflect that the tennis court ribbon cutting was on June 15th, and not June 1st as stated in the minutes. Penn noted that since at the time of the meeting this was the correct date, that the minutes should not be revised. No edits or changes to the minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Jay Fleer

Seconded by Jacque Gameson

**Motion passed 8-0**

**Sustainability Commission:**

Kevin Schmidt attended the meeting on June 6th. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held before the meeting for the pollinator garden in front of City Hall. They had a guest speaker from City Roots. They discussed the environmental fair-80 booths, sponsors, bands, ads will appear in the Mission Magazine. Discussed the “road diet” which will begin at the end of June or July. Johnson Drive will be reduced to three lanes from Roe to Lamar.

Next meeting will be July 11, with Jay Fleer volunteering to attend if possible.

**Mohawk Park Final Design Update:**

Plans submitted by Sands Construction LLC for Mohawk Park were approved. The original timeline shared within the plan did not include the bid-alternate parking lot construction. A new construction schedule was submitted which included a completion by mid-March 2023. Original completion date was February 2023. Anticipated ground breaking at some point in late July. This gives us roughly 5 weeks to break ground and still make the mobilization goal of August. Mark asked if there would be a groundbreaking ceremony. Penn said yes and anticipates it will be a larger ceremony than the recent tennis court ceremony.

**Feasibility Study Update:**

Penn noted that Parks + Recreation have shared revenue estimates and the operational expenses for this year with PROS Consultants. They are in the final stages of budget analysis for that portion of the feasibility study. Information on programs and target demographics of who we serve will also be part of the program data analysis. Natalie Lucas, Jenny Smith, Jenna Dickman and Penn reviewed the annual programs and classes, membership costs, room use and program life cycle as part of the analysis.

### **Camp and MFAC Update:**

This season Mission started with 18 camp counselors, but 3 left for higher paying jobs. Eight dollars was the minimum for starting level instructors, but Parks + Recreation staff asked for an increase in pay for camp counselors and supervisory level in order to retain counselors/staff. Staffing shortages have been difficult to manage. Since the pay rate went into effect, staff has been able to hire a few more counselors. MFAC lifeguard crew is really energized and focused and works well as a team. They have to train a certain number of hours each week and month to maintain their certifications. They have been working cooperatively to cover lifeguard vacations/lack of staffing. The outdoor pool has sold 500 super pool passes. The number of available passes is limited to 500 since it impacts other pools. There were two COVID outbreaks in the first three weeks of camp. Staff planned for this potential situation by creating a detailed plan for exposure, communication standards and benchmarks for camper return after quarantine periods.

### **ID Plaque Update:**

Jacque thanked everyone on the ID plaque subcommittee for reviewing the content and especially Warren and Cindy who came through with fabulous suggestions. 17 plaques were ordered for Broadmoor Park trees. Taylor will be mounting signs, which were printed by Sign Pro, in the park prior to the family picnic. A Western Redbud, which is unusual for this area, will be one of the trees that will be marked in the park. The subcommittee did a great job of finding quality trees for the signage. The majority of signs will be viewable from the trail. Signs have also been installed at the Mission Market location.

Penn noted that an Ironwood tree was removed in Waterworks park and will be replaced. The maple tree on the south side of City Hall will eventually be cut down and replaced too.

### **Mohawk Park Construction Contract- Sands Construction LLC:**

City Council strongly supports the project. Bid was received from Terracon to supervise and conduct midweek inspections of building progress to make sure it is built to specs. Council will review that bid during the July Community Development meeting and ask any questions. Staff will reach out to OP for crosswalk and ADA compliant intersections at Lamar and 67th and Beverly and 67th.

Permits have been applied for and are being reviewed by WaterOne and Johnson County and City of Mission. The contract is being reviewed by Mission and Sands Construction LLC and should be fully executed by the next Parks, Recreation + Tree commission meeting. Warren asked if we need OP's approval and if there will be push back. Penn said since 3 of the 4 corners of Lamar and 67th are OP's property they will have an opinion on how best to solve safe access to the park. Mission has a strong partnership with OP and since they are aware of the park improvement, finding a solution only makes sense to make it a safer intersection.

### **Positive Improvements:**

Penn said thank you to everyone who showed up for the Andersen Park tennis court ribbon cutting. It was impressive how much support was there from the PRT. When asked who supplied the large scissors, Penn responded by saying they were provided by NE JoCo Chamber of Commerce who also sent Haley Kenig as a representative for the Chamber.

Supposed to have shaded seating at the tennis courts installed Friday, June 17th, but may be installed Tuesday, June 20th. After the shaded seating is installed, the contractor will complete a final walk through with Penn.

¾ cent sales tax, 7 to 1 approval by Council. They listened to the unanimous motion from PRT to keep the existing rate and agreed with the PRT's rationale of why keeping it at that level showed that we were listening to resident requests to invest in parks more without increasing taxes.

Anne added that she spoke to a resident who lives near the tennis courts, who has stated that she loves living next to Andersen Park and has loved seeing the improvements that have been done throughout the years. Anne pointed out that residents are noticing the improvements and we need to remind them through the sales tax marketing materials.

### **Sales Tax Renewal**

Now that the rate level is approved, it falls on the grassroots efforts within the community to share the information. The Mission Marlins have helped in the past as well as some local scout troops.

Anne suggested it would be great to get contact names, e.g. people who have adopted parks, Marlins contacts, by next month and discuss and divide potential promoting jobs at the next meeting. She said, potentially we could ask local schools for help.

Mark asked if the city has created a fact sheet, and if we could see a rough draft of it, to see if anything has been overlooked. Would also like to make sure the details outline what has been done, and what will be done.

Anne wants to make sure that the promotion does not get duplicated from what the City has done.

Penn noted that Mission did a great job with the promotion/marketing of the street sales tax, and feels that this effort will be similar to that, and not like what park issue promotions were during the initial Parks + Recreation sales tax vote. Mark wondered if the city will underwrite flyers to pass out to neighbors, he also asked if there could be yard signs produced to promote the tax. Mark also stated that past efforts included PRT's own funding and door to door campaigning.

Anne suggested a design would need to be created.

Nicole said making a slogan or signage would be helpful. Suggested "Vote yes for parks", or "Renew our parks".

Anne suggested that nothing should happen before August 1st, Warren agreed, since it would possibly be buried by the other political issues being voted on at the beginning of that month.

Mark noted that we could stand at the Mission Market and hand out fliers. Many more ideas were discussed.

Jacque suggested using campers to create yard signs. Anne noted less is more.

Social media was not a factor in prior publicity pushes, but it was stated that it would be helpful to incorporate social media in this promotional push. Suggested reposting of Mission Facebook posting would help.

Anne asked Penn to provide contacts, and a task list at the next meeting.

Nicole asked if she could collect slogan ideas, and then send them to PRT members for narrowing down.

#### **Volunteers:**

Summer Family Picnic, July 9th - discussed moving it to the fall, but that was nixed. There is support for incorporating a fall event. Hours for volunteering are 4-9pm. Jacque, Mark, Cindy, Nicole offered their help.

Mission Market, PRT can start hosting a tent in July, starting the second Thursday in July. Anne and Kim can be there on 7/14, Nicole and Jacque will be there on 7/21.

Update on Mission Market access was discussed since that will impact traffic and where to park. Contractors are working on the stormway nearby, so Reeds Road will be closed for large amounts of time. This will impact Market access.

#### **Park Tours:**

Penn tabled until the next meeting. Anne asked that we think about how and when we would like to tour some of Mission's Parks.

**Next meeting:** July 18th at 6pm at the Powell Community Center.

#### **Motion to Adjourn:**

Anne asked for a motion to adjourn

Jay motioned, seconded by Nicole.

**Motion carried 8-0**

Faithfully submitted by Kim Weir, Mission Parks, Recreation + Tree Commission member.