



PARKS, RECREATION + TREE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2023

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

The PRT Commission met at the Powell Community Center Conference Room E on Monday, January 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

In attendance: Jacque Gameson, Nicole Sullivan, Kevin Schmidt, Angela Vandegrift, Cindy Long, Sarah Grittmann, Warren Hays and Council Liaison- Mary Ryherd.

Penn Almoney, represented staff

Absent: Ryan Casey, Kim Weir, Council Liaison- Lea Loudon

Guests: Andy Heiland, representative from Mission Sustainability Commission

Jacque called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM, and began the round of introductions to new members- Sarah Grittmann and Angela Vandegrift, and welcomed those present.

Approval of Minutes

Warren asked that his name be spelled correctly- "Hays" for the December 2022 minutes.

Warren moved to approve the minutes with change.

Cindy seconded.

Motion Passed 7-0

Sustainability Commission Report

- Jacque attended the January Sustainability Commission meeting on January 9. She said they review the vision statement and commission members share sustainability moments which sets a nice tone for the meeting.
- There is a leadership change with the new year- Ellen Parker as Chair and Lauren Reiter-Schmid as Vice-Chair.
- Climate Action Plan- Council Member Hillary Thomas said Mission is adopting the 2018 codes and looking forward to discussing the 2021 code adoption later this year where focus will be placed on the energy conservation part of the code.
- Kansas Corporation Commission recognized the Sustainability Commission and Powell Community Center for building upgrades.
- The Sustainability Commission is preparing at 5 min powerpoint presentation to the Mission Community Development Committee (CDC) on Wednesday, February 1 with goals and progress.
- Andy reviewed the Strategic Planning Process- 1. Partner with City Council to achieve MARC Climate Action Plan goals. 2. Mission is a place for all to visit, live and play. 3. Make Mission a responsible steward of natural resources. 4. Educate citizens on sustainability principles. 5. Partner with local businesses to reach sustainability goals.

City Council Update

- Mary shared that Stantec won the bid for Water Works Park final design following the RFP listing in November 2022.
- Mary stated she would like to see the Parks, Recreation and Tree Commission (PRT) present to the CDC and present annual objectives/goals.

- Penn reminded everyone that Anne O’Leary submitted goals to the City Council in 2022 based off February/March budget, projects and maintenance discussions. It was good to have that voice and important that she took the time to share that last year.

Mohawk Park Project Update

- Penn shared the 16-18 month lead time for block and steel for the restrooms and pavilion/shelter. The delivery should happen in February barring any serious delays. The sanitary and sewer tie-ins are schedule to occur in late January which will necessitate a short term road closure along 67 St.
- Cindy said the wider trails are very nice and will use them.
- Jacque asked about phase 2 and where we are in that process. Penn said Confluence will propose an amended budget and begin the final design process for phase 2 which will include the entire perimeter trail of Mohawk, an All-abilities playground with poured-in-place rubber surfacing, shade sails and a concrete sport court for basketball and pickleball. There will also be some additional parallel parking along the eastern edge of Mohawk Park to eliminate parking on the grass or in the road.

Action Items and Planning

- When asked about the feasibility study, Penn mentioned that he and Laura met with PROS Consulting to review the formatting and language surrounding their recommendations and objectives. There is another meeting scheduled for later in January to keep the process moving forward.
- Cindy said the social media posts are well-done and have been giving great updates with important information.
- Jacque congratulated the Parks and Recreation department for a newly branded and professional Adventure Guide (formerly Activity Guide).
- Jacque presented Penn with a check for \$71.65 for extra funds donated during the Sales Tax renewal fundraising and marketing efforts. Penn committed to depositing it.
- Jacque shared the new PRT roster with contact information and said, “feel free to reach out anytime”.
- Jacque also shared a statistic that recycling at the PCC contains garbage. She is excited that there is commitment to be 90% landfill free which is included in the World Cup contract.
- Penn shared that staff interviewed three vendors for the Water Works Park final design bid: Stantec, SMH and Confluence. Stantec won the bid with the lowest cost and commitment to keep the entire renovation to \$1.5M. Construction bids will be gathered and reviewed in late summer, ground breaking some time in the Fall 2023 with anticipated completion by August 2024.
- Penn shared the PCC is opening the north entrance due to attendance increasing and parking needs. Cindy mentioned she noticed the parking need and it’s great that people are returning. Penn mentioned that this places a strain on the existing staff, so more team members are needed at the entry desk, lifeguarding and in facility set-up.
- When asked about the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for \$453,670.00, Penn responded that the grant application was for \$900K of improvements at Streamway Park for a dog park fence, sprinkler system, parking lot, trail tie-ins and landscaping. City Council earmarked \$200K as part of the 2022 budget for this project. The Kansas Dept of Wildlife & Parks staff distributed the compiled applications to the review committee at the beginning of the year. Their team anticipates the review completing in March with an award announcement by May 2023.

Positive Improvements

- Penn shared the resoundingly positive feedback from the epoxy flooring installation in the PCC locker rooms. The pool deck of the indoor pool at the PCC was resurfaced and sealed so cleaning has been significantly easier. A new Parks and Recreation Facility Maintenance Supervisor was hired on January 4. His name is Roger Salinas and he is moving from Iowa and originally from Texas. He brings 20+ years of maintenance experience primarily from the military and senior health facilities.

PRT Nominations and Vote

- Jacque nominated Kevin and Kevin asked the time commitment. Penn responded with meetings, presentations and minute and agenda reviews- 2 to 4 hours monthly depending on the month.
- Nicole nominated herself for chair when asked if there were any additional nominations.
- Cindy said she supported Nicole's nomination.
- Warren asked if Cindy was willing and available. Cindy was not comfortable accepting this year due to constraints.
- After discussion, **Jacque** moved that Nicole be the PRT Chair for 2023,
Cindy Seconded
Motion Passed 7-0
Jacque moved that Kevin be the Vice-Chair
Warren Seconded
Motion Passed 7-0

Review Park Maintenance Needs

- Jacque shared the new tree and maintenance form and shared the intent is to help staff find and prioritize maintenance or code issues.
- Cindy asked who the forms should be given to and Penn said to email or hand the forms to him and he would get them to the right City staff.
- Jacque reminded commission members that whether it's on private or public property these forms can be given to City staff and they will determine the best course of action, whether it be code enforcement or fixing the issue.

Tree City USA Poster Contest

- Rushton Elementary students finished their posters on Jan 13. Jacque said they will be picked up from Rushton the last Thursday of January and be on display at the PCC Jan 27-30. She reminded everyone to be sure to vote. The top 10 posters (chosen by teachers) will be hanging in the south hallway and the first place winner will represent Mission in the Kansas Forest Service (KFS) state poster competition.
- Cindy said, "I voted last year and you can tell the students learned something while creating these posters."
- Jacque said if we get the District or State winner, the KFS will plant a tree locally. She will present the winning poster to the Kansas Forest Service by February 3 and City Council will recognize the winner during the April 19 City Council meeting. Then she'll work with the teachers and staff to present to students at Westwood View since Rushton Elementary is under construction.

Tree ID Plaques for 2023

- Andersen Park is next up for tree ID plaques.

New Introduction Powerpoint

- The updated onboarding powerpoint which was created last year by PRT members was shared digitally. Be sure to review that information and feel free to ask any follow-up questions. It's a great dive into the breadth of information and items we discuss annually.

Cindy made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Sarah seconded.

Motion unanimously carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Faithfully submitted by Penn Almoney, Mission Director of Parks and Recreation, secretary pro tempore, for Kim Weir, who was unable to attend this PRT Commission meeting.

