

Mitzi



MINUTES
CITIZEN BOND COMMITTEE
PARKS AND RECREATION SUB COMMITTEE

COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER
14050 FARMERS BRANCH, TEXAS 75234

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016
7:00 PM

Members Present: David Merritt, Nic Rady, Michael Driskill, Rodger Cramer, Jorge Gonzalez, John Jakob, Linda Bertl

Members Absent: Michelle Holmes, Colin Eddy

Staff Present: Jeff Harting, Mitzi Davis, Meredith Dowdy

I. CALL TO ORDER

David Merritt called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

II. APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2016 AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION

Roger Cramer moved to adopt meeting minutes; Second by Linda Bertl. Motion passed unanimously.

III. DISCUSS PROJECT EVALUATION BENCHMARKS

Project benchmarks were noted and discussed, the subcommittee agreed that creating a matrix where these bond ideas could be tallied would help in selection and evaluation. It was noted that other sub-committees are developing their own matrix and that these should be reviewed to see if any of categories within these are applicable to Parks and Recreation. Below are categories discussed:

- Name
- Description
- Source (if questions arise)
- Vision for full implementation
- Prior work done on this item
- Soft and hard cost
- Constraints / Legal Issues
- Social impacts
- Value
- Who benefits / Overall benefit
- Longevity
- Diversity

Overlap with other Bond Sub-Committee Initiatives should be capitalized upon to provide multiple benefits to the community. Overlap with the following were discussed Public Works (infrastructure and street signs), Planning & Zoning (new development primarily Westside and Eastside), Economic Development (encouraging business development), Arts (potential placement of Art and Art venues) and Public Safety (emergency call boxes).

Public relations should be integral in our effort to get feedback from our neighbors and include their ideas. Bond ideas should be more than needs but large ideas that differentiate the city; we should not limit discussion of any new ideas brought to the table.

IV. REVIEW AND DISCUSS CURRENT PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Citywide Trail Master Plan – The current plan is broken out into short term (1 to 5 years), midterm (5 to 10 years), and long term (beyond 10 years). The goal of this feasibility study was to create a trails system master plan that could link city, commercial, education, and residential components of the city.

Fort Worth and Dallas White Rock Lake were noted as a similar example of city linkage.

Financial Incentives that may be available include:

DART grant to provide connectivity to the Farmers Branch Rail and Brookhaven College was noted.

Hotel Incentives were discussed, currently a hotel consultant is working with Farmers Branch.

- City Branding
- Neighborhood branding (making neighborhoods more distinctive)
- Portal into City
- Trail heads as markers
- Nature Preserve / bird sanctuary (current funding includes bridge) County will be matching city funding.
- Visitor Center

Developers willing to share cost with the city for these improvements since it would benefit their development

The cost of "Road Diet" (reducing road by one lane to provide a designated bike route) and "Shared Roads" (designating a shared route for both vehicles and bicycles) were discussed.

Time frame and the required phasing of work to be discussed in future meetings.

The city will need to work through Right-of-Way requirements and coordinate with property owners.

Items that may be included with trails discussed include:

- Restrooms (composting toilets)
- Lighting
- Safety

Farmers Market needs discussed; the intent is that this becomes a destination for food trucks, education, special events:

- Road (asphalt)
- Outdoor Venue (theater / music productions)
- Outdoor covered structure for leasing (birthday parties, special events)
- Children's play structure / playground
- Restrooms
- Area for food truck

It was noted that post oaks require that their root area not be disturbed.

The existing school building could be used as an expansion of the Farmers Market area.

V. **DISCUSS POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL PROJECTS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

- Dog Park (west side)
- Wedding venue at rose garden (outdoor kitchen, restrooms, water fountains, changing rooms)
- Future Fire Station 2 Park (sculpture, fitness trail)

Further discussion needed for program items discussed within Meeting 1 (Frisbee Park, street soccer, etc.)

VI. **CONSIDER AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Meeting 1:

Sub-Committee to discuss how to incorporate public relations to get a sense for what is wanted and needed by our communities and how the proposed items will be received.

City Staff to provide the Citywide Trail Master Plan 1 – 5 year, 5 – 10 year, and 10+ year estimated cost.

City Staff to provide the Farmers Market Phase 1 and Phase 2 list of items and their estimated cost.

Discuss the different funding sources available for these potential Parks and Recreation Items (County, Council, Private, etc.)

Discuss other developments already in progress that may be leveraged to benefit Parks and Recreation efforts.

Meeting 2:

Developing a specific matrix of benchmarks based on input from our Parks and Recreation sub-committee and also positive lessons learned from the other sub-committees

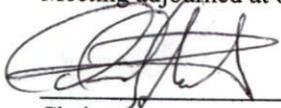
Define the Trail Master Plan implementation phases and associated cost expectations

Discuss the Nature Preserve Master Plan among other projects to incorporate in our focused efforts

Future Meeting dates in May: Monday, 5/2 and Monday, 5/16

VII. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Michael Driskill. Second by David Merritt.
Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.



Chair

Attest:



Secretary