

CHELSEA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
City Council Chambers Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2022, 9:00 AM

PRESENT: Shawn Personke, Sam Angus, Pat Muldoon, Erin Brayton, Sharon Castle, Kate Mehuron (City Council liaison), Roy Atkinson (City Manager)

GUESTS: Derek Bollinger

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Personke
2. Approval of the Agenda. Mehuron moved to approve September minutes. Muldoon second: Unanimous.
3. Approval of August and September Minutes. Mehuron moved to amend agenda to include August minutes; Castle second. Unanimous.
4. Call to Public
5. Old Business
 - A. Main Street Park update. Atkinson: will provide received comments from City on the MSPA proposal for the City.
 - B. Freer/Trinkle update. Atkinson: No update. Angus would like a future update on the potential designation of the property.
 - C. Community Task Force (CTF) update: Angus
 - a. Results: The CTF approved a preliminary report to go to City Council. Angus gave a brief summary of the main 3 options in the report.
 - b. Next steps: Establish a working group to research and fill in some information gaps.
 - D. County Grant update. Atkinson: The grant proposal was submitted by the deadline. Cost estimate: \$225,000 to share with Westchester developer. Result should be incoming next month. Staff would plan during the winter and in spring start construction.
 - E. Timbertown/Trailhead update/Survey. The survey was received yesterday by Atkinson and Personke. Personke created a quick recap but suggested the Commission discuss it thoroughly next month..
 - a. Results: 213 responses so far.
 - b. Next steps: Run it for a few more weeks and discuss in November.
 - F. Dog Park: Angus.
 - a. Survey: 120 responses. Still running. Major issues: Shade and mud. Majority of respondents have not registered. Discussion: Personke: Registration and rules are not matching with actual use. Perhaps look at other general practices in the region. Muldoon: people need to know the dogs have been vaccinated.
 - b. General Update on mud project: Atkinson and Bollinger. Fundraising was successful to fund the drain. Drain was constructed, lying in the middle of 8' x 8' concrete drain. The pipe run across park and under the fence, halfway and eventually trickle into Mill Creek. Muldoon: Is hose to remain? Bollinger: Hose can remain unless there is a problem such as overflow from not washing the dogs directly on the concrete pad.
 - c. Bark Park Facebook moving to City ownership: Personke administered the FB page for 2 years. Atkinson: City is now the administrator; Members can be included in its administration. Personke would like to remove herself from it as administrator.
 - G. 2022-23 Budgeted Park Improvements: Atkinson and Bollinger provided a document with summary of progress.
 - 1) Dog Park: Atkinson and Bollinger. Will place trash bin at entrance. Signage: have reviewed quotes received before Atkinson's time. Have designs that are same theme as other parks. \$400-\$1,000 (aluminum type) range. Will roll ahead with the designs. One will be mounted on the block wall.

Shade: a pavilion (not sails), modeled on but smaller than Pierce Park is under consideration. Will have picnic tables in it.

- 2) Veterans Park. Atkinson: moving ahead with quotes for signage and racks. Will report back.
- 3) Pierce Park: Atkinson. Discussion revolved around many aesthetic ideas that would combine sitting places and landscaping. Personke and Castle: Double check pricing on original concept. How many racks? Personke: soon to have a meeting to put together a 5 Healthy Towns (5H) funding proposal by the first week in December. Could fund in partnership with Library; look at Timbertown responses: more color, imagination, arts.
 - A. Bike racks. Personke. Received Foundation grant for one bike hitch post (5H logo) will be ordered today (cost of \$800 with \$500 grant). Will be placed at Pierce Park. Could go back to ask for a bigger grant with their logo at every park. Suggested that we should approach our businesses about placing bike racks.
 - B. Play element: Atkinson. Hard pressed in terms of cost. Our budget could get a swing, slide or natural play element (not ADA compliant). A tangible element would cost more than \$50,000. Angus: smaller play elements scattered about. Castle: Arboretum Ann Arbor has natural play elements to review; helps children to grow imagination; see story-telling post. Different parks could have different focal points. Mehuron: brings us back to Pathways to Renewal. Atkinson: Excellent idea regarding natural play options; will explore it. Brayton: original goal was to bring play element for older children at TT. Look at grants for making it useable for older children. Muldoon: If MSPA comes through, will provide for older kids.
 - C. Pathways to Renewal. Personke: Community Foundation might be interested in Pathways to Renewal. Should get together to talk about it.
 - D. Trails. Explore linkages with Silver Maples trails. There was a meeting with Hospital and Silver Mapes on trails related project: signage and connectors.
- 4) Timbertown - picnic shelter: Bollinger. The 2020 Pierce pavilion was \$20,000. Seeking an updated quote from the vendor. Bollinger: planning to bring in a safety inspector this Thursday who will provide a full report at next meeting.

H. Pure Michigan Trail Town Discussion. Atkinson: City Council approved action to move forward with State application. Would like to form an advisory committee constituted by someone from this Commission, businesses such as Aberdeen, CAFR, to aid process. Getting clarification on response deadlines from the State, perhaps Dec. 1. Have a bike race every year.

6. New Business

7. Commissioner Reports: none. Atkinson: Met with 2 concerned groups. Intention to follow the Parks Plan, yet opportunities change and need flexibility. Pursuing making Parks and Recreation a City department.

8. Next meeting Nov. 1, 2022

9. Adjournment: Castle moved; Angus second. 10:04 am.