

PARKS AND REC ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 17, 2024

Present: Amanda Burns, Geoffrey MacDonald, Hosea Mitchell, Jessica Jackson, Ned Michie, Kent Merritt, Jeffrey Fracher, Mark Dennison and Leo Abrahamson (Student Member)

Absent: Jackie Webber, Jenny Taylor and Jeanette Abi-Nader

City: Riaan Anthony, Will Bassett, Annie Sechrist, Colin Banks, Mike Svetz

Public Comments: None

Administrative Items:

ADMIN-1: Ned Michie approves September's minutes

Action Items:

A-1 Elections of Vice Chair Ned Michie

- Reminds Board of need for a new Vice Chair
- Role of Vice Chair meets with Riaan Anthony along with Chair to set the agenda
- Only for next 2 meetings
- Annual Organizational meeting in January where we will select all new officers

Information Items:

I-1 Presentation- Master Plan Update- Mike Svetz PROS Consulting

- **Trail Connectivity Analysis** focusing on recreational paved trails
- Analysis aims to identify missing segments, expand the shared use system, and prioritize projects
- Existing trails, funded projects, and potential future connections were discussed
- Prioritization criteria include utilization, geographic distribution, land acquisition, and purpose of the trail
- **Framework Plans for Five Specific Parks**

- Plans for each park outline potential improvements and considerations for future development
- Plans are high-level ideas and test fits intended to be flexible and provide opportunities for community input
- **Tonsler Park Framework Plan**
 - Improvements to basketball courts
 - Addition of picnic shelters
 - Refurbishing of concession building
 - Repurposing of sports fields
 - Consider the needs of the immigrant and refugee population in the area
- **Washington Park Framework Plan**
 - Addresses the park's two distinct areas (upper and lower)
 - Proposes adding picnic shelters in lower area
 - Adding restrooms
 - Creating a nature play area
 - Repurposing the baseball field for other uses such as a dog park and/or community garden
- **Market Street Park Framework Plan**
 - Creating a flexible event space
 - Improving accessibility
 - Balancing the needs of the general public with concerns about the homeless population
 - Widening entryways into the park
 - Adding new seating areas
- **Court Square Framework Plan**
 - Enhanced seating
 - Improved plantings
 - Adding a fountain
- **Kindlewood Park Framework Plan**
 - This is a new redeveloped park in the Friendship Court community
 - Plan includes various amenities such as basketball court, picnic shelter, and community gardens
- December 16th- Present to City Council

- December 17th- Finalize recommendations and strategies workshop with staff
 - December 17th- Public meeting/open house at Carver Rec at 6pm
 - January/February the Master Plan will go through
 - Public steering committee
 - Parks and Rec Advisory Board
 - Planning Commission
 - City Council
- ★ **Mike Svetz would like to mention that most of the work was done by Kimberly Horn former LPDA in Charlottesville.**

I-2 CIP Updates Riaan Anthony

- Requested CIP to a formal internal process on October 4th
- Working on transferring ARP funds to eligible projects before the end of the year
- Continue working with attorneys on resolving the Angus property issue for the Meadowcreek Trail

I-3 2025 Meeting Location Riaan Anthony

- We have Carver’s multipurpose room booked for the entire year
- Meetings will be held on the same day at the same time

Public Comments: None

Chairman’s Matters: Ned Michie

- If possible the City could list our Board vacancies so people see it’s available
- May want to create a deadline to apply
- Deadline could be between now and January

Amanda B- Do you have to reapply?

Riaan A- No, it will be an email from the Chair to the City Manager. The City Manager will reappoint them.

Board Matters: None

Director’s Matters:

D-1 Budget Update Riaan Anthony

- Funding request made to DCM for
 - Project Manager
 - Custodial staff
 - Trail Coordinator
 - Inclusion Coordinator
- Recommends that Board draft a letter to the City Manager and Council supporting the dept's staffing requests for the upcoming budget

Amanda B- When do you need that letter?

Riaan A- January/February

- We have a signed contract for the Deputy Director of Parks position. The individual will start Nov 18th.
- Also finalizing the hiring process for the Deputy Director of Recreation position.

Adjournment: Ned Michie

Motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm

Motion passes