

City of Charlottesville
Department of Parks and Recreation
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"A World Class City"

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA May 16, 2012

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMIN-2 Adoption of Minutes – April 18, 2012 Advisory Board Meeting

DISCUSSION ITEMS

D-1 McIntire Park East Side Master Plan

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

BOARD MATTERS

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

ADJOURNMENT

City of Charlottesville
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Agenda Item
May 16, 2012

ADMINISTRATIVE – 1

Adoption of Minutes – April 18, 2012 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

ACTION REQUIRED:

Advisory Board adoption of the minutes of the April 18, 2012 meeting.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Minutes of April 18, 2012 meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
April 18, 2012

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. at City Space. Members present were: Byron Brown, , John Foster, David Hirschman , John Kammauff, Sean McCord, Jennifer McKeever, Ned Michie and Dan Rosensweig Member absent: Ruth Barnett and Skylar Hughes-Lyon.

Staff: Brian Daly, Doug Ehman, Vic Garber, Chris Gensic, Philip Seay, Rion Summer, Will Bassett

Minutes

➤ **Motion**

- Change motion for Vice Chair from Dan Rosensweig to Jennifer McKeever
- Sean McCord made a motion to approve minutes as amended, second by Dan Rosensweig, motion was unanimously approved.

McIntire Park East Side Master Plan

- Brian reviewed the master plan process that has been taking place for the east side of McIntire Park since last September:
- Public Master Plan Meetings
 - Sept 26 – Introduction to park, acquisition history & environment, and outline of the planning process
 - Oct. 24 – Public comment meeting - organizations provided 7 minutes, individuals 3 minutes
 - Dec. 12 – table exercise, group charette
 - All comments and verbatim transcript of last meeting are located on City's website under the McIntire Park East Side Master Plan.
 - Chris Gensic stated that they are still determining uses of the park and will get into the design after, at present still @ land use planning level. Jennifer McKeever stated that the board should limit their discussions to land uses at this time
 - David Hirschman stated that it was a great opportunity to walk the McIntire Park site yesterday.
 - Different elements – bridge crossing railroad tracks will be soon
 - Board should be looking at the east & west sides of the park
 - Issue with three concepts - sharp lines between Botanical Garden and Golf
 - Botanical garden experience could begin near bridge
 - Interrelationship – Botanical Garden on top, not being used by golf now, reconfigure golf
 - John Kammauff asked if the entrance might entwine with the west side master plan that is already planned
 - David Hirschman asked about the Skate Park – would there be any egress or ingress, long way to go to Skatepark.
 - Major activity will be more on the Melbourne side
- Jennifer McKeever asked the board if they had any questions
- Ned Michie stated that he had sent out some questions in an e-mail and asked if board members could have a copy of the Pen Park map in hand size

- Brian Daly reported that there wetlands were also present
- First Tee contract – mentions Meadowcreek as its home, also for construction of a 9 hole course. Brian Daly replied that the contract says a 9 hole course may be constructed. Philip Seay showed on map where a 9-hole course might be constructed @ Meadowcreek golf course.
- Brian Daly stated that the fitness trail and stream goes through the area along with steep slopes
- Said that the Advisory Board has asked about First Tee @ Meadowcreek, would have to look at what present activities would be effected, reconfigure golf course, parking lot, athletic fields, playground, would require re-master planning of area
- Ned Michie asked if it would be easier to move the exercise trail rather than the other elements
- Finances of Meadowcreek – Brian Daly stated that there was a tremendous amount of data that could be provided
- Jennifer McKeever asked about the revenue stream, moving First Tee to Pen Park could affect revenues, that it would be hard for the Advisory Board to make a decision without the data. Would like to know the cost of a 9 hole course @ Pen Park, question of investment
- Sean McCord felt that board members should treat the work session like jury duty, hear arguments from different sides, not make a decision today, not sending to Planning commission until next month. Based on all comments the inclination is to find a way to keep golf @ McIntire and stated that he was not a golfer. Supports keeping some kind of golf @ McIntire, has been there for 7 years, it is an affordable place to play golf, not just golf, outdoor sports, bargain. Stated that he joined the Advisory Board right after the YMCA approval where he heard the softball arguments, happy that a concession was being made, standing up for people for playing affordable golf in a location that is in the city, felt Pen Park was too far and that McIntire Park was accessible,
- Open to Botanical Garden, although not convinced everyone on same page of what a botanical garden involves, when talking to people outside of the room – sounds great, something a first class city should have, should be able to walk dog.
- Dan Rosensweig stated that public comment would be open for the next couple of weeks and those opinions should not be made at this time. He stated that serving on the Planning Commission should be very careful of the form that recommendation takes. Majority opinion might be challenging. As a Planning Commissioner will see plan four times. All recommendations will go to City Council, owe to City Council to recommend a plan that is actionable.
- Rather than vote on one of the concepts, send as a straw poll, Skatepark, trails, botanical garden, golf, small athletic fields, vote on each if appropriate in park.
- At this time – heard consensus on Skatepark, Dogwood Memorial, Melbourne, shelters and there is a significant opportunity for aquatic presence to be redone, possibly a water feature..
- Have been incredibly moved on appeals from public on golf uses, history,\hard to eliminate a use that people are passionate about. Feels there are a number of uses that can co-exist
- Raw consensus – want to open park that more people can use
- Straw poll would be a stronger recommendation for City Council & Planning Commission
- Sean McCord stated that he was concerned about definition of a Botanical Garden

- Ned Michie stated that it should be made clear about open use, passive space, not tailored Botanical Garden
- Determine passive use, open space or some part open to golfers
- Dan Rosensweig stated that the Planning Commission will start with definitions, staff could provide
- David Hirschman stated to caution trying to box everything within 60 acres.
- Jennifer McKeever stated that they should see ability to do everything, active and passive, definitely need definitions because everyone has different ideas
- Byron Brown wanted to know timeline, stated that yesterday's walk changed mind, concerned about funding available. Ned Michie stated that he didn't think they will be able to determine funding at this time.
- History argument – can't throw out, be mindful, even if golf stays, won't be same course. While paying homage to history, by 1972 already was plans to not have golf at location. Needs assessment will be a compelling piece, struggling with decision, does golf have a place here.
- Dan Rosensweig felt this is a community struggle but ultimately City Council will be the only 5 members with legislative authority.
- Ned Michie stated that things do change – skate park nobody wants to lose, was previously tennis courts, used to wait in line to play tennis there
- John Foster stated that he struggles with the golf issue, having kids and talking to people in the neighborhood, hears over and over would be better if more people use the park, put emphasis on using for more uses to bring more people, provide more access and activities
- Sean McCord stated that there are two parks sides – look at McIntire as a whole, keep in mind that there is a whole McIntire Park
- Jennifer McKeever would like to see both sides
- John Kammauff stated that he didn't think numbers are a fair assessment, would like to see what chance golf could have. Playground is important to certain population, have been birthday parties there, pool strain there, different aquatic feature may be needed. Biggest concern for youth sports person, problem taking from one group and giving to another
- People who are asking for open space – don't realize all that Parks & Recreation has done with open space in recent years.
- Skatepark – not sure good fit there – keep open thought for Washington or Tonsler Parks, may answer with problems in those parks.
- Skateboarders concerned about time down for Skatepark. Brian Daly replied that not all Skatepark pieces are movable, physical moving not an issue. Present Skatepark location will not work with construction of the interchange, will need flat area, interim location can be found until master plan, keep entrance off 250 Bypass.
- Sean McCord – Skatepark needs to go somewhere, small but vital to population
- Byron Brown asked if where moved would it be permanent, Brian Daly replied if it is in the master plan, yes.
- Jennifer McKeever asked if Skatepark would have a place to move during interchange construction. Brian Daly replied if it is master plan approved, can move movable pieces to location, existing equipment would not take up all space, could be planned. Emergency access would be available with bridge.

- Brian Daly stated that the Advisory Board could approve Skatepark part, could accelerate planning.
- Brian Daly stated that the concepts came from common consensus from public meetings, make sure integrate with other uses
- Master plan determines land use for the park, adopted plan will represent community desires for park would include recommended phasing and funding.
- Jennifer McKeever would like an aquatic feature close to field
- Site plan deals with actual development
- Jennifer McKeever stated that aquatic, field and Skatepark be included as in concept A, thanked advocates for these areas. Liked David's idea of transition. Okay with golf on the site, but needs to have investment
- Master plan be part of plan so that First Tee contract fulfilled until 2019, feels First Tee works well @ McIntire right now,
- Sean McCord stated would like to discuss whether to support golf @ McIntire Park, regardless of First Tee
- Jennifer McKeever stated that she has been reading comments, not sure of golf's future, have not seen support. Likes the idea of somewhere central, have lots of neighborhood parks, would like to have a central park that golf could be a part of, anything would take a significant investment
- John Kammauff asked when master plan is finalized, does this take from other master plans. Doug Ehman replied that it would not displace other master plans.
- Sean McCord stated that he would like to have estimates from staff on costs if decided to relocate golf. Brian Daly replied staff would have to look @ scale, irrigation, could do that. Doug Ehman stated that the cost will be higher to move to Pen Park.
- Ned Michie stated that he didn't like that golf in concepts has prime location on the hill. No matter how popular golf becomes, will always be a small percentage of the community
- David Hirschman stated that the City has a unique piece of land, unique because of things that are happening that will allow more access, central park becomes very compelling. Seize an opportunity when it arises. Phased approach would be a transitional period, feels they can coexist.
- Jennifer McKeever thanked staff for information provided

Chairman's Matters

- Jennifer McKeever stated that she didn't like that summer pool passes not good for Smith, didn't like carrying two passes. Will Bassett replied that her key fob will include all activities.
- Summer sale for pool passes – discount before May 20
- Would like to see spray grounds to open earlier

Director's Matters

- Jordan Park – playground - 100% damaged from fire. Fire Marshall initially listed as unlisted origin; determination has been made to arson.
- \$45,000 to replace playground equipment has enough shade to install all steel units.
- In the process of replacing, working with insurance – hopefully completed by mid to late summer

Board matters

- None

Motion

- John Kammauff made a motion to close meeting, second by Sean McCord, motion was unanimously approved.
- Meeting adjourned @ 7:00 pm

City of Charlottesville
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DISCUSSION – 1

McIntire Park East Side Master Plan

Staff will provide an update on the status of the Master Planning process for the east side and a staff recommendation to the Advisory Board. The staff recommendation will be representative of the totality of comments received from the community throughout the master planning process and comments from the Advisory Board. The recommendation will also include a proposed sequence of implementation of the final master plan once adopted by City Council.