

MINUTES
City Council Parks, Trails, & Recreation Committee

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 3:30 PM
Railroad Depot

Members Present: Mac Morrow, Chair, Council Member
Maureen Copelof, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Paul Ray, Planning Director
Nancy DePippo, Citizen Member
Howie Granat, Citizen Member
Matt Christian, Citizen Member
Erik Emaus, Citizen Member (Arrived at 3:38 pm)
Ryan Olson, At-Large Member

Absent: David Lutz, Public Works Director

Staff Present: Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant

Guests: Torry Nergart, Conserving Carolina

Media: Matt McGregor, *The Transylvania Times*

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Chair Mac Morrow welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM.

B. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Copelof, seconded by Mr. Granat, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of September 16, 2020 Meeting

Motion by Ms. Copelof, seconded by Mr. Christian to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Project Updates

1. Rosenwald Community Projects
 - a. Silversteen Memorial Playground
 - b. Mary C. Jenkins Community Center
 - c. Tannery Park

Mr. Fatland updated the committee on projects within the Rosenwald Community, including Silversteen Memorial Playground and the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center. He noted that these projects would not have been possible if not for the Bethel “A” Baptist Church’s donation of the Silversteen Playground and the parking area to the City. They will also be donating \$16,000 for additional playground equipment. This week, the City Council approved purchasing new playground equipment, which includes a 20-foot Alpha Tower with multiple climbing and sliding opportunities, a 66-foot ZipKrooz zip line, and an OmniSpin spinner. The equipment was ordered today, with an anticipated 8-week delivery time. The City has also hired an engineer to help with a grant application to restore Norton Creek.

Ms. Copelof is working with other groups that may want to purchase additional items to add to the park. She noted that the playground project includes new equipment, a basketball court, covered picnic area, landscaping, fencing and repairing the stone entrance arch. The City has allocated \$100,000 toward the playground, but we will need to raise additional funds. She said a fundraising team has been formed and she invited committee members to join that team. She noted that we have applied for some grant funding, we are coordinating with a couple of other organizations who want to partner with us, and we are looking for sponsors.

Mr. Fatland was pleased to report that City Council has approved staying on schedule and to move forward with the new Mary C. Jenkins Community Center, and to fund the project without a tax increase. He reported that the design is now complete and the architect is working on construction documents. We hope to go out to bid in January with construction to start in late March and anticipated project completion in the spring of 2022.

Mr. Ray reported that we finally have a draft Brownfield agreement for Tannery Park. The City Attorney and the City’s engineer are currently reviewing the draft and we need a Brownfield survey plat in order to secure the agreement. Once it is in place we have to follow guidelines. Mr. Ray said the greenway trail is first and foremost, but there are other things we can potentially do as well and we just need to talk about what those things are.

Mr. Olsen said people still remember the conceptual visioning process for Tannery Park from years ago and many are wondering why it hasn’t happened yet. Mr. Fatland said that some of the amenities the City may have talked about a long time ago for Tannery are going to happen at Silversteen and the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center. He added that the County also donated a piece of property on

Duckworth to the City and we want to rebuild the bridge that used to go from Duckworth to the Tannery site and connect that location to the trail so it gives two downtown locations to the Estatoe Trail. He said the Brownfield agreement will be going to City Council in January for approval and that will be a good opportunity to talk about the whole project and what we can and can't do.

2. Brevard Skate Park

Mr. Ray reported that the soft opening went really well and there have been lots of people skating there. He said the park is not 100% complete as we are still waiting for trash cans, bike racks and benches, but they should be here soon. He said the landscaping came out great and we are waiting for the bronze sponsor plaque which will be recessed on one of the large boulders at the entrance of the park.

3. Brevard Dog Park

Ms. Copelof reported that the City Council has allocated \$75,000 for the Dog Park, which is enough to get us started with Phase 1, to include final grading, fencing, utilities and gravel paths. However we do need to raise another \$40,000 for additional amenities. She said fundraising efforts include selling bricks for \$100 each and we are looking for sponsors at various levels. Ms. Copelof gave all committee members brick donation forms and asked for their help in selling bricks and to let her know of any groups that may be interested in a sponsorship. She has created a Brevard Dog Park page on Facebook to try to generate enthusiasm for the park.

4. Estatoe Trail System

- a. Easements
- b. McLean to Depot Railroad Avenue Park

Mr. Fatland reported that the City got a PARTF grant for \$180,000 and we are in the process of getting all the easements to the high school. If we get all the easements by January or February, we can apply for another PARTF grant to pave the trail. He said we have all the easements from McLean Street to West Main, but we need to raise money to build that section. We have construction money to build from West Main to Mary C. Jenkins, but we are still working on securing easements for that section. Mr. Fatland reported that even though we did not get the BUILD grant this year, we will apply again next year and the application will include constructing the tunnel under Asheville Highway. Mr. Fatland reported that the pipe for the McLean Rd. to Depot Park section is now here and the contractor is working on the retaining wall.

5. Tannery Skate Park

Mr. Fatland reported that the Council voted to keep Tannery Skate Park open and the feedback he got yesterday while at the concrete skate park was that people

really appreciated that both parks are open. Public Works conducts regular maintenance checks at Tannery Skate Park and Mr. Lutz said there have been no issues. He said the biggest problem is that people don't use the trash cans.

F. Set Date for Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the Parks, Trails & Recreation Committee will be on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 3:30 PM at the Depot.

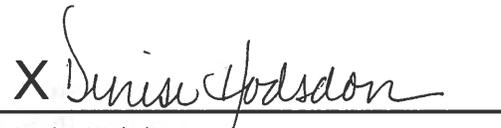
G. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.



Mac Morrow,
Chair, Council Member

Minutes Approved: November 18, 2020



Denise Hodsdon
Executive Assistant