

MINUTES

City Council Parks, Trails, & Recreation Committee

Wednesday, June 20, 2018, 3:30 PM

Administrative Conference Room at City Hall

Members Present: Gary Daniel, Chair, Council Member
Maureen Copelof, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Daniel Cobb, Planning Director
David Lutz, Public Works Director
Colin Izzard, Citizen Member
Keenan Smith, Citizen Member
Gregory Copeland, At-Large Member

Absent: Cody Owen, Citizen Member
Jonathan Griffin, Ex Officio

Staff Present: Aaron Bland, Planning Department
Tom Whitlock, Deputy Finance Director
Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant

Guests: Torry Nergart, Conserving Carolina
George Peterson and Geraldine Dinkins, Skate Park Representatives
Karen Domanski, Resident of McMinn Avenue

Media: None

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Chairman Gary Daniel called the meeting to order at 3:36 PM.

B. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Lutz asked to add an item regarding the High School Road path to the agenda as Item G. Motion by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Cobb to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes from April 18, 2018 Meeting

Motion by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Lutz to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Proposed Skate Park at Tannery Park

Mr. Cobb referred to the proposed Tannery Park site plan which includes a future 15,500 square foot skate park to be surrounded by a fence. This site plan had been submitted last year as part of the PARTF request for funding to build the trail system and these park amenities. It was not funded but there is interest in getting the skate park going sooner rather than later. Mr. Cobb introduced Geraldine Dinkins and George Peterson who made a presentation on behalf of the Tannery Skate Park working group. The proposed plan for the park includes two ramps built out of wood. Ramp 1 has a footprint of 40 feet wide by 50 feet long with walls of 4 to 6 feet in height. This ramp would be a beginner/intermediate skate ramp. Ramp 2 would have the same footprint and would have 13' walls. Ms. Dinkins said Ramp 2 will be a pro-style ramp that will be competition ready and could be used for events and as an Olympic-type training facility. They are working with a landscape designer to configure how the two ramps will be set on the property in order to minimize any blind spots and maximize the use of the area.

The total cost will be \$95,000, which includes \$35,000 of in-kind contributions of labor and equipment. The group plans to conduct a fundraising drive in July and August to raise the additional \$60,000. Mr. Fatland noted that donations would be made through the City of Brevard. A revenue account will be created and receipts will be generated for all donations. The group hopes to begin construction in September or October, but would not start until all of the funds have been raised. Construction will be done with volunteer labor under the supervision of Jacob Dinkins and upon completion, the structures will be turned over to the City. The City will assume responsibility for landscaping, lighting, parking and future maintenance and upkeep. Before moving forward with their fundraising efforts, the working group is looking for approval from this Committee.

Mr. Fatland reiterated that the future skate park is part of the Master Plan that had been approved by the Committee and the City Council prior to the City's application for the

PARTF grant last year. The City has funds for the trail system through the Tannery Park, however we are waiting for Brownfield Agreement approval. Mr. Cobb said there is no contamination in the area where the skate park is going and he is attempting to get approval to build the skate park on the Tannery site in the area that we know is clean.

Mr. Daniel asked if there would be some type of fencing or controlled access to the pro ramp. Mr. Peterson said they are still working out those details. Mr. Copeland asked about the maintenance life of the structures and Mr. Lutz inquired about the annual cost for maintenance. It was suggested that we contact other municipalities with similar type structures to get answers to those questions.

McMinn Avenue resident Karen Domanski informed the Committee that area residents have concerns about drainage issues and that there could be increased noise in the neighborhood. She added that Senior Citizens feel somewhat disregarded and would like to see some quiet and stability. One idea they would like to see is an Audubon Society pollinator station and butterfly garden and perhaps a program in conjunction with the North Carolina Arboretum.

Mr. Smith liked the idea of a butterfly garden and Arboretum program. He thought the skate park is a great idea and he hoped that everyone would be on board. He made the motion, seconded by Mr. Izzard to authorize fundraising to build a skate park on the City's master-planned Tannery Park. During discussion, Mr. Copeland expressed concern that we don't have enough information about the design and location to go forward with fundraising. Mr. Fatland suggested that if the motion is approved, the working group could come back to this Committee with more detailed specifics. Ms. Copelof said even though the Master Plan has been approved by City Council she was not comfortable that people are aware of what type of skate park is being proposed. Ms. Dinkins assured the Committee that the group would not begin raising money without showing people what the structures will look like. Vote on the motion was six in favor (Mr. Daniel, Mr. Fatland, Mr. Cobb, Mr. Lutz, Mr. Izzard and Mr. Smith) and two opposed (Ms. Copelof and Mr. Copeland). The motion carried.

F. Resolution Supporting Implementation of the 2018 Pedestrian Plan

Mr. Fatland said he would like to see the City start moving to acquire all the easements to complete the trail system within three years. If we had all the easements in place and grant monies became available, we would be in a good position to make application. Mr. Cobb will update the Committee each month as to which easements have been acquired. Mr. Fatland reported that the Tourism Board believes that our trail system is an economic plus for the City and County and they are willing to put up money for trails.

He asked the Committee to consider asking the City Council to embrace a plan to make it happen in three years and to adopt the proposed resolution. Following brief discussion, Mr. Smith moved and Mr. Copeland seconded to approve the implementation of the 2018 Pedestrian Plan as noted. The motion carried unanimously.

G. High School Road Path

Mr. Lutz shared a handout with the Committee outlining the cost for different options for the High School Road path. A 10-foot wide asphalt path would cost \$12,000 and a 7-foot wide concrete sidewalk would be \$8,000. He pointed out that Poplar Street is a dead-end street with 8 houses on it and it has a dedicated bike lane. He suggested that we could do the same thing on High School Road. He said they have been keeping the gate closed at the high school so essentially it is a dead-end street. Mr. Smith said they do open the gate and students and parents come and go through that gate in the morning and in the evening. He said they close it when school starts. Mr. Lutz said he has not approached the school to ask what they want. Mr. Smith volunteered to work on setting up a meeting onsite with the school. Consensus of the Committee members was to go forward with a 10-foot asphalt path as drawn.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business, Mr. Daniel adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

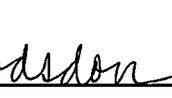
Next Meeting

The next City Council Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 3:30 PM.

X 

Gary Daniel,
Chair, Council Member

Minutes Approved: September 12, 2018

X 

Denise Hodsdon
Executive Assistant