

PLEASANT HILL PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

October 13, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Loren Lown called the regular meeting of the Pleasant Hill Park and Recreation Commission to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Gary Denning, Anne Johns, Matthew Keller, Loren Lown, Penny Thomsen and Matthew Will. Absent: Olivia Smith.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DENNING/KELLER moved to approve the agenda. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 REGULAR MEETING

DENNING/KELLER moved to approve the minutes. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

4. TIME TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION (5 MINUTE LIMIT)

Matt Carlile from Confluence was present to discuss the Community Park Plan Conceptual Design. A project team was established and met with different groups within the community to discuss requests for the area. This included meeting with school and city officials. The proposed design has been divided into five separate areas. Area 1 is the area that required working with school officials as it is the closest to Four Mile Elementary. Meetings were held with staff and students at the school during the design process. Area 2 is considered the activity area that includes an area for soccer fields, will allow for overflow parking for the school, possible splash pad, playground equipment and a facility for a concession stand. This area will include hard and soft trails as well as a prairie restoration area. Area 3 includes an outdoor classroom area, prairie restoration area with a butterfly garden; small water area; community center space and community garden area. There will be shelters along the ridge lines with parking locations. This area will include the highest elevation of the park. Area 4 will be more of a woodland space with gravel type trails with a different version of trail to the picnic shelters. This will include a trail going to the SW corner of the park that will eventually connect to the trail system going south. Area 5 is recommended to have a dog park in the NW corner. There will an introduction of a trail head in this area. The project team has met with all neighbors regarding the possibility of a dog park in that area. There are approximately thirteen phases that will be ongoing with developing the area. The next step will be to present the conceptual design to the Southeast Polk School Board on November 3 and then to the City Council. The look of lodges/community building will be determined during the phasing. Estimates of costs to be provided by Confluence will likely be ranges for budget purposes. It is planned to have the estimates for the City Council in November. Chair Lown stressed the importance of having the funds to maintain the buildings and the area. The park area is a priority in the proposed CIP budgets for the next five years and will continue into the future.

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Review and Recommendation of Community Park Plan Conceptual Design - In 2014, the City of Pleasant Hill purchased 77 acres of land to be developed into a park. The City solicited the services of Confluence, a landscape architecture and planning firm, to begin the process of producing a Master Plan to develop the park. A project team which consisted of members of the community was established to review conceptual designs and make a recommendation to the Commission. Confluence will be providing the City of Pleasant Hill general phasing

strategies to develop the park to assist with budgeting. Staff has identified development of this park as a priority in the 5-year priority projects list. KELLER/DENNING moved to approve the conceptual plan. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried.

b. Review and Recommendation for 2017/2018 Comprehensive Improvement Projects -During the month of October the Commission gets a chance to review and make recommendations on what projects to prioritize over the next five (5) years for the Parks and Recreation Department. Recommendations made by the Commission are submitted to the City Manager for further review and ultimately presented to the City Council for approval. Following the Commission's recommendations, staff will provide estimated costs to the City Manager and City Council for review. DENNING/JOHNS moved to approve the five year CIP list with the following recommendations: move the master plan updates for Copper Creek Lake Park to FY 2017/2018; move up the master plan and work at the Des Moines River boat ramp.

6. REPORTS

a. Baseball Field #3 Improvement Update – The concrete work is 80% complete, dependent on weather plan to be finished within two weeks. The fence installation is planned to start in about two weeks. More trees will be planted to help increase shade in the park.

b. Art on the Lake Recap – It estimated there were between 800-1,000 people attending the event. Nora Schatzberg's goal is to have about 50-75 artists next year with additional bands and food vendors. BRAVO grants are being pursued to help future art events at the lake. Commissioner Johns stated that this is a good thing to have in our city.

c. Dinner and Learn about Tree Selection – Park and Recreation Supervisor Heath Ellis conducted the first annual event in conjunction with the ELKS Beacon grant that funded the trees. Those in attendance received a free tree when they registered for the dinner and were also able to purchase additional trees. Any remaining trees will be planted in city parks with the assistance of Boy Scouts. A workshop will be held in February to discuss the pruning of trees. This will hopefully help to improve the quality of trees in the city.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

a. Chair Lown reported that the city did not receive any funds from the trail grant this year. The Trails and Greenway Advisory Board have had a number of people discuss the extension of the trail from MLK to the trail head on Scott and the future of that trail connection.

b. Commissioner Keller asked if the six foot wide sidewalks have the potential for bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Pursuant to city ordinance, the sidewalks are not intended for bicycle use. The six foot wide sidewalks are going into all new developments within the city. The concern is the Little Four Mile Creek Road and Copper Creek Drive intersection for pedestrians/bicycles and vehicles. There have been discussions on resolving this concern and they are ongoing.

8. ADJOURNMENT

THOMSEN/JOHNS moved to adjourn. Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

- NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING – November 10, 2016

Cindy Konrad
Recording Secretary