

**PARK BOARD MEETING  
Foster Community Center  
March 13, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Veronica Gracia-Wing, Jim McClurken, Rick Kibbey, Zoe Ahlstrom, Michael Ruddock, Rosalinda Hernandez, Kimberly Whitfield (arrived at 6:40 p.m.; departed at 10 p.m.)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation Director; Kellie Brown, Board Secretary; Peter Wood, Friends of Ormond; Joan Nelson, Allen Neighborhood Center; Gabriel Zawadski; Ron Wojack; Ryan Smith; Nancy Mahlow

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:34 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Gracia-Wing asked to move updates to after board meeting minutes.

**BOARD MEETING MINTUES:** Ruddock approved the February 13, 2019 minutes as submitted, seconded by McClurken.  
6 yeas; 0 nays

**Motion carried.**

**UPDATES**

**Park Projects**

Reviewed update list provided in board packet. Ahlstrom inquired about City Market being on hold. Kaschinske stated repairs to the trail area and riprap were being considered, however the area of Rotary Park changes the scope of the project.

**Scott Woods Project**

Kaschinske stated an e-mail was sent to board members advising the 50-foot clearing had been reduced to 30-foot and provided before and after pictures.

Peter Wood inquired what percentage of Scott Park is affected by this project and what percentage permits public comment.

Gracia-Wing stated that currently there is no mechanism in place for when parks are impacted to institute public impact.

Wood stated he wants to formalize a process for public impact.

McClurken stated the Board was blindsided. There is no percentage in place and he hopes for more transparency on future projects.

Nancy Mahlow inquired if there is a plan to replace trees.

Gracia-Wing stated this is a project laid out by Public Service to replace aging infrastructure.

Kaschinske stated no trees will be planted, but regrowth will be permitted.

Kibbey stated this is another manifestation of Forestry being pulled away from the Parks Department and not receiving notification when trees are cleared from a city park.

Gracia-Wing asked to have Forestry added to the April meeting agenda.

Kaschinske stated for construction of significant projects we want contractors and have the Forestry Department working on city trees.

Trees are removed when they can come down over the trail and the reason for Scott Woods was to remove obstructions to construction.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Land Acquisition Ingham Land Bank – Beacon Park**

This area is currently referred to as Simken. The board had voted to purchase the additional triangle and dedicate the entire parcel as parkland. This agenda item is to name the park Beacon Park.

McClurken inquired if the community has been made aware of this.

Kaschinske stated Southwest Action Group, Elaine Wolmboldt, and Councilmember Hussain have been involved in the meetings.

Ruddock asked if anyone has been confused with the name and the Beacon Field at Ferris.

Ryan Smith stated sponsors should personally be addressed, such as GM, Sparrow, etc., to ask for corporate sponsorship.

Kaschinske stated Capital Region Community Foundation reached out for Rotary Park and was the model; however, non-profits are successful at raising funds.

McClurken moved to name the park Beacon Park; seconded by Kimberly Whitfield. 7 yeas; 0 nays

**Motion carried.**

**DNR Land Acquisition Grants – River Street, St. Joseph, Cavanaugh**

Kaschinske stated the deadline for grants is April 1, 2019 and reviewed the maps of the properties. River Street and St. Joe property is located near Cherry Hill Park. The properties are in the flood plain, the buildings are vacant and would be demolished. The options for the land would include possible expanded parking or green space; both options would also assist emergency management by removing the structures.

Ahlstrom inquired if the owners are willing to sell and what the asking price is.

Kaschinske stated yes, the price is the appraised value and there would be no negotiation.

Kaschinske reviewed the location of the Cavanaugh Property and the vicinity to Hawk Island and the River Trail. There are boarded up structures on the property, it is located in a blighted area and is in the flood plain.

Ruddock inquired if outside of the grant match is there any foreseen expenditures in the next five years.

Kaschinske there are no anticipated costs.

Kibbey moved to acquire the three properties; Seconded in unison by Ruddock and Ahlstrom. 7 years; 0 nays

Motion carried.

**CIP Projects**

Gracia-Wing reviewed the process she had e-mailed board members for the voting process.

Kibbey voiced concerns about only one dot per project, per board member and when and why did the processed changed.

Gracia-Wing reviewed the discussion from the February meeting asking board members for their suggestions on the voting process and stated she received no feedback from members and she made a decision.

Ruddock stated discussion has taken place on how to get projects on the list throughout the year and the board should proceed with the process set forth this evening and discuss changes for future processes.

Kaschinske provided a PowerPoint presentation on proposed FY20 CIP projects and a list of projects with associated costs.

* Grant Match Money	\$600,000
* Splashpad	\$400,000
R/D Wilson Park/Dunnebacke Pathway	\$375,000
City-wide Repair and Maintenance	\$300,000
* Playground Installation and Renovation.	\$300,000
* Parks Paving Projects	\$300,000
Basketball Complex	\$300,000
Foster Park Improvements	\$111,000
* Community Center Building Improvements	\$100,000
Moores Park Pavilion	\$50,000
Turner Mini-Park	\$80,000
Kids Camp	\$37,000
Mobile Recreation	\$33,000
Washington Park	\$26,000
* Replanting Trees	\$25,000
Groesbeck Golf Course	\$25,000
* New Park/RiverTrail Map	\$25,000
ADA Transition Analysis	\$25,000
* EZ Dock/Fishing Pier/Boat Launch	\$23,000
Facility Conditions Assessment (Turner)	\$10,000
* Naturalization Plan	\$10,000
 TOTAL	 \$3,155,000

\*flexibility in cost

Splashpad – Kibbey inquired what happened to placing this at Letts. Kaschinske stated there are issues with it being located so close to the school and kids getting into at recess; additional playground equipment has taken up some of the space. Ruddock stated he had someone inquire about the splashpad at Hunter Park being closed the last two years. Kaschinske stated it has not be closed. Ahlstrom asked about the cost flexibility for this project. Kaschinske stated \$250,000 would be a small splashpad.

Basketball Complex – Kibbey would like to address the basketball facilities that are located throughout the city ie: churches and provide programming in those facilities. Ruddock inquired if the cost is steel or glass backboards. Kaschinske stated aluminum.

Community Center Improvements – Ahlstrom asked about the cost flexibility for this project. Kaschinske stated it would depend on the projects.

Moore's Pavilion – Kaschinske stated this was listed as an additional \$85,000; however, bids were received and are priced at \$50,000 for the concrete pad. Kibbey stated we have been speaking with the neighborhood for 5 years and what, if any, money have they contributed to projects for the park. Kaschinske stated they received a neighborhood grant and put in soccer goals.

Groesbeck – Kibbey wanted to know if a business plan was presented for revenue related to pavilion use. Kaschinske stated yes, Scott Keith presented to the board a few months ago.

Gracia-Wing inquired if there are some projects that would qualify for CDBG funding. Kaschinske stated yes, for example, Risdale Park was CDBG funded.

Nancy Mahlow stated Marshall Park is highly used and to have more eyes on it and activity would be ideal. Anywhere ADA improvements to parks can be done, should be done.

Joan Nelson provided background on Foster Park, the partnerships with Parks and the funds they have raised over the years to assist with the development of the park. The project on the CIP list for Foster Park is one of the last pieces to the improvements of the park.

Ryan Smith stated the city has done poorly in allocating for maintenance for future new projects and funds need to be set aside for repair and maintenance. Kids programming is essential and the mobile recreation project is a new concept.

Peter Wood inquired why the playground at Ormond is on the list because it done. Gracia-Wing stated it was provided as a cost example. Wood asked if the basketball complex at Marshall would affect the Ormond court. Kaschinske stated no. Wood asked if the Park Board is responsible for traffic control. The cars using the new drive to the golf course are speeding and he has concerns for safety. Kaschinske stated it is in a park, so yes. Gracia-Wing clarified that he would like the speeding issue addressed. Wood stated yes.

Board members voted and discussed CIP projects and made the following recommendations:

City-wide Repair and Maintenance	\$300,000	
Kids Camp	\$37,000	
Grant Match Money	<del>\$600,000</del>	\$400,000
Playground Installation and Renovation.	<del>\$300,000</del>	\$200,000
Facility Conditions Assessment (Turner)	\$10,000	

Parks Paving Projects	<del>\$300,000</del> \$200,000
Moore's Park Pavilion	\$50,000
Foster Park Improvements	\$111,000
Mobile Recreation	\$33,000
Replanting Trees	\$25,000
 TOTAL	 \$1,366,000

Kibbey moved to accept the recommendation list; support by McClurken, Hernandez, Ruddock. 6 yeas; 0 nays

**Motion carried.**

**STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS**

Peter Wood stated he heard the presentation on Groesbeck, but did not receive an answer to his question regarding the reduction in the per golfer subsidy from \$24 and he wants an answer. He also wants to know if LEPFA has met the requirements for managing the course.

Kaschinske stated he did not have that figure with him this evening, but would have it by the end of the meeting. However, Mr. Wood left before Kaschinske returned with the answer. The subsidy for 2018 was just over \$6 per round/golfer.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Kellie Brown, Park Board Secretary  
 Approved May 8, 2019

