

PARK BOARD MEETING
Foster Community Center
May 8, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim McClurken, Rick Kibbey, Zoe Ahlstrom, Michael Ruddock, Mike Dombrowski

MEMBERS ABSENT: Veronica Gracia-Wing, Kimberly Whitfield, Rosalinda Hernandez

OTHERS PRESENT: Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation Director; Kellie Brown, Board Secretary; Peter Wood, Friends of Ormond; Erika and Travis Poland

CALL TO ORDER: 6:31 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None

BOARD MEETING MINTUES: Kibbey oved to approve the May 8, 2019 minutes as submitted, seconded by Alhstrom. 5 yeas; 0 nays

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

New Board Member

Kaschinske introduced new board member, Mike Dombrowski. Mike stated he is married, has a 2 ½ year old daughter, lives on N. Hayford. He works for a software company and bikes in the parks.

Kaschinske also introduced Erika Poland who was in attendance. She will be the new 3rd Ward board member effective July 1. Poland stated she lives in the Lansing Eaton neighborhood, has been a resident for 13 years and has always enjoyed the park system.

PFAS

Kaschinske stated the Old Oakland Neighborhood, which is on the border of the old General Motors plants; Racer Trust tested the ground water for contamination. The city is involved due to the community garden at Dunnebacke Park. Racer Trust tested the soil and found 1.6 parts per billion, not a level as high as the drinking water but at this time, the science is not available on what the contamination to food would be. In view of this information, the garden project will plant only non-edible plants.

Racer Trust is in communication with the neighborhood and the city is communicating with the garden project who is not interested in other parks at this time.

The city is not looking at testing soil in all gardens.

Rudduck inquired how many parks are next to industrial.

Kaschinske stated this has been discussed and there are none in the proximity this park had to GM.

Travis Poland commented he dealt with PFAS at the State and would recommend looking at the Delta and Tecumseh River Drive areas due to run off.

Kaschinske stated Julie Lehman oversees the garden project and she is included in communication.

Ahlstrom mentioned a bill package was recently introduced regarding PFAS.

UPDATES

Art Path

Kaschinske provided background on the 2018 Art Path project. According to the city's public art policy, this project needs board approval. There will be 20 sites along the trail this year.

K. Daniels stated all the artists are from Michigan, paid a stipend and a professional panel who are familiar with the art policy reviewed the art examples they submitted. The opening will be June 1 with a kickoff at Turner Dodge on June 7; the exhibits will be on display through August. Daniels reviewed the 2019 proposed sites and the art projects.

Gracia-Wing inquired how many displays remain from last year. Daniels stated two murals; the artists are aware the displays are only for three months.

Kaschinske stated when a project involves art in the park it comes to the board to determine if there are any issues with the logistics, if it will disturb park use or is offensive. He has worked with Katrina to make adjustments of some of the exhibits as needed.

Kibbey stated he has concerns about the mobiles and people being able to reach them.

Daniels stated they have made it clear to the artists these displays are on public land and there is the possibility of damage.

Gracia-Wing inquired about the contract.

Kaschinske stated the contract is between the City and Lansing Art Gallery and Lansing Art Gallery has a contract with the artists.

Hernandez asked who chose the theme of the exhibits. Daniels stated the artists did. The judges, who are familiar with the public art policy, reviewed the proposed theme.

Kaschinske inquired how many are returning artist. Daniels stated two.

McClurken moved to recommend the art projects to the Mayor, Ahlstrom seconded. 5 yeas; 1 nay

Motion Carried.

Murals

Ozay Moore, Below the Stacks, provided background on the \$75,000 grant received for a Mural Festival. The event will take place September 14 through September 21 with unveiling during Prime Fest. There will be local and international artists. There are ten walls selected, three are Parks property: Gier Center, Foster Center and Southside Center. Gier

wall would be facing Gier Elementary, Foster would be on the gym and SSCC they are working with school district for approval.

Kaschinske inquired about the use of a lift and the grade at Gier and how far up would the art start.

Moore stated the intent is to cover the entire wall. The heart of the project is to bring beauty to the community and host an event.

Review of the artist style and Moore provided examples of their work.

Moore stated the community will be involved as well as the city art policy being followed.

McClurken has concerns about protecting the brick, especially Foster that is 100 years old.

Moore stated the brick is primed.

McClurken stated the damage done to the bricks is from moisture between the brick and the paint.

McClurken requested a remediation plan to provide examples on brick protection and other projects showing how the brick may have been affected. McClurken stated he is familiar with the damage paint can do to historic brick and the work it takes to correct the issues.

Kaschinske inquired about the duration of the murals. Moore stated 20 years with maintenance.

Kibbey confirmed the murals would be completed in one week.

Gracia-Wing shares McClurken's concern about a plan to ensure the integrity of the building and it should be a caveat of any motion made to include this be the charge of the mural team.

Kaschinske stated discussion with building maintenance could take place.

Ahlstrom inquired if Moore knows what other communities are doing.

Moore stated this is the time to engage the community for questions and answers. Moore stated his partner is the mural artist, however he was out of town for this meeting, but he has done extensive research.

Kibbey stated he is not sure how Alfreda Schmidt would feel about a mural on SSCC. Kaschinske stated that could be addressed.

Gracia-Wing suggested a presentation on alternate sites.

Ahlstrom inquired what the Parks timeline is.

Kaschinske stated the soon the better so artist could prepare. This event is in September and the Board does not meet in August.

Gracia-Wing pushed a vote to June.

McClurken would like to recommend proceeding with the expectation of a mediation plan.

Motion to move the project forward anticipating a mediation plan and with providing alternate sites. Kibbey seconded.
5 yeas; 0 nays

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Board e-mail Policy

The idea was the general formation, how to respond, and who would respond.

Ruddock wants to avoid multiple people responding with different answers.

Ruddock will be first to respond, Ahlstrom is back-up. Board Chair will ensure, if applicable, the email item gets on the agenda as correspondence.

CIP Mayor Approved

Kaschinske reviewed list.

UPDATES

Park Updates

Board received update list to review

Board Member

Kaschinske stated there are two candidates before Council.

Appropriation Resolution

Kaschinske reviewed the dollars received from the sale of Waverly, Miller Road, and Cooley Haze.

Re-envision of Moores Park is for preparation of when the pool will no longer be in the park. The neighborhood does not want to demolish the pool.

REMARKS OF BOARD MEMBERS

McClurken is hosting a fundraiser for the Windlord at his home on July 25 from 6 to 9:30 p.m.

STATEMENTS OF CITIZENS

Beth Styer, Friends of Ormond Park, attending on behalf of Peter Wood.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Kellie Brown, Park Board Secretary
Approved June 12, 2019