



Town of Atherton
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
May 5th, 2021
Landscape Walk Through 5:30 pm
Special Meeting 7 pm Zoom Meeting

Meeting started at 6:34 pm

1. ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Matt Baker, Alicia Bakowski (absent), Alex Keh (Chair), Frank Merrill, Julianna Robertson, Marylue Timpson
Councilmember Liaisons: Rick DeGolia
Staff: Sally Bentz-Dalton

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May Minutes

The Committee approved the minutes with the change of addition Christine David presentation 4-0.

4. PRESENTATIONS –None

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5a. Additional Verde Design elements for the Circulation project for review

Sally shared pictures of existing park tables, benches, and trash cans.

Even though currently there's an AC pathway leading to the main entry plaza, the PRC long term wants to convert that pathway to DG so they want the pathway that connect to that pathway to be DG to match the future plans.

They want the Parkit product.

They want to pursue both the Wisly Garden option and the option of recasting the existing fountain. There is a belief the fountain came from the original Palmer Estate. Sally will check with the Park Foundation to see if they are looking at costing.

PRC wants Verde to match the same wood benches that are in the park. One committee member asked how long benches last and how much they cost, costs are not shown on the graphic.

Verde should match the existing receptacles; Sally will send pictures to Verde.

They do not want a bike repair station. There is not bike riding allowed in the park.

They want the Dog Waste Depot option, but do not want the trash bin that comes with the receptacle. The stand-alone trash bin would be fine. Verde should place the dog waste station next to the trash receptacle.

They like the Japanese sedge. They like all the enhancement planting options; they want the ones that are low maintenance and require little water. Sally will give feedback on the plants as well.

They like the Choral Bells, also the David Viburnum. Hydrangea in the park is not looking great, Verde should probably not use it, needs enough water. Good comments on the Pieris, the Bleeding Hearts are nice, investigate the water needs of them. The top four look good, especially the Japanese Maple, except the California Buckeye goes through a period when it looks dead most of the year, do not use it. Peppermint Willow is currently on site, also Red Horse Chestnut. No Manzanitas, has thorns, is a hedge. Yes, on the Ceanothus. They like the idea of including Ginkgo's which are doing well in the park and not included on the boards, but no female Ginkgo's which smell and produce litter. Sally will include more feedback for Verde.

5b. Overview of Capital Improvement (CIP) projects for fiscal year 21-22 and 22-23

Staff reviewed the upcoming CIP projects that include the Circulation project, repaving the north meadow parking lot and installing a new fence along Watkins. Rick DeGolia has received a lot of comments from residents on the chain-link fence along the park. It is a project that is getting prioritized for safety reasons. Alex Keh mentioned that there will need to be money for the future signage and standardization project.

5c. Community Garden project review and recommendation to explore further

Christine David presented the Community Garden project and then took comments and feedback from the Committee. Matt Baker suggested there should be a larger space to have a garden. Christine David like the placement of the garden because it is unused area. There is room for 8 plots. The Committee suggested outreach to see if this is something the residents would be interested in. Alex Keh asked if there is enough interest. Julie Roberson suggested a query to go out. Rick DeGolia stated that the Committee could make a proposal to Council to authorize staff to do outreach. Alex Keh made a to recommend to Council to authorize staff to conduct outreach and work with Christine David to get feedback on the Community Garden proposal. 4-0.

5d. Park Tree Walk project and brochure information and feedback.

Staff presented the project. Alex Keh thought it was a good idea. Frank Merrill will review the history part of the brochure. Staff sent it to Frank. No comments sent back. Rick DeGolia thought it was consistent with the Park and a great idea.

5e. Updates on the prioritized park projects and goals

There were no updated by staff on the Carriage Bathroom remodel. Alex Keh mentioned that at the June or July Council meeting he will present the P&R annual report.

5f. Park banner approval for park entrance

The banner design for was shown by staff to let park goers know that over 12 people requires a day use permit. Matt Baker suggested to keep it simple and temporary. The Committee agreed to the sign.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS –

6a. Discuss the P&R annual Committee report to the Council and provide feedback to the Chair.

Alex Keh mentioned that at the June or July Council meeting he will present the P&R annual report.

7. COMMITTEE AND STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS

7a. Foundation report: Frank Merrill stated the Foundation will investigate the fountain to recast and that the Chief's House gate is the original. He also said that they may of a potential Committee member for P&R.

7c. Park goings on reports and Q&A: Staff opened item to the Committee for questions and discussion.

7c. Park Events Report: Staff opened item to the Committee for questions.

7d. Individual Committee Member Comments: None

8. SET/CONFIRM NEXT MEETING

June 2nd, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Zoom.

9. ADJOURN - Alex Keh adjourned meeting at 8:40 pm with a motion by Matt Baker and 2nd by Alex Keh –4-0.