

**Recreation and Parks Advisory Board  
Online WebEx Meeting  
January 27, 2022  
Board Meeting Minutes**

**PRESENT**

Board Members: Elisabeth Fischer, Jack Thirolf, Kirsten Kaplan, Tom Lynch, Chip Boylan  
Dirk Whatley, Jonathan Weiss, Kathleen Linehan  
Absent: Maryann Kearns  
Staff: Tim Chesnutt, Karla Sheehi  
Councilmember: Councilman Pierzchala

**Meeting commencement:** 7:00 pm

**Re: Approval of December Minutes**

The minutes were approved as presented.

**Re: Guest Forum**

No guests in attendance

**Re: Council Report - Councilman Mark Pierzchala**

- Mayor and Council are currently in the budget process and will receive a proposed budget from the City Manager. Councilman Pierzchala suggests that if anyone on the advisory board has specific budget items to support to attend one of the budget hearings and sign up speak.
- Mayor and Council had a robust discussion on Parkland Acquisition at the January 24 meeting, and the various ways to fund parkland. The advisory board should be engaged on this topic. Councilman Pierzchala pointed out that the city is so different from one place to another and will require situational approaches.
- Mayor and Council discussed the vaccine requirements for Board & Commissions and contractors. It's for the purpose of protecting those coming into the building. Those attending in person, have to be vaccinated or in masks. Having a hybrid option so that members have a choice to meet virtual or in person was also brought up.

**Re: Staff Reports**

**Parkland Acquisition Public Hearing**

The basic concepts for parkland acquisition are; *parkland dedication* for new development would be a formula, depending on the acreage, dedicating a portion of the property to the city. *A fee in lieu* is if the parcel is not of interest to the city for parkland. A third concept is *impact fees*, where a development will apply their project to the formula and have associated impact fees. This topic will be presented to various commissions to participate in discussions and provide their input.

**Parks and Facilities Job Fair**

The Parks and Facilities division has experienced some challenges with filling vacancies and therefore held a job fair at the Rothgeb Maintenance facility along with Public Works and obtained some good candidates.

**City Hall ADA improvements**

The City Hall ramp and upper parking lot project to provide ADA accessibility has been completed.

### **Lunar New Year Event**

The city's Lunar New Year celebration scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 10, from 6-8 p.m. at the F. Scott Fitzgerald. Multicultural performances begin at 6:15 p.m. Tickets were required and have sold out. The performance, however, will be recorded and televised on Rock11 at a later date.

### **Winter Programs**

Winter programs are underway in the city and registrations are being accepted for the Winter II Session, which begin in mid-February.

### **Recreation and Parks Staff Breakfast**

Tim's Leadership team will be at the Senior Center on Friday January 28 at 6:30 am to cook and distribute breakfast for the department. Normally this breakfast is a sit-down meal, however this year breakfast will be a drive through setup at the Senior Center. The Recreation and Parks Foundation has donated gift cards which will be creatively raffled during the drive through breakfast.

### **Reimagining Redgate Project**

The project is progressing nicely. The consultant will be presenting three concepts to Mayor and Council on February 7 for their feedback and direction. Final modifications will then go out to be shared with the public which we hope will lead to a final recommendation with the intent to begin the design process this fiscal year.

### **New Civic Center Theatre Supervisor**

Tabetha White joined the Civic Center Complex Division on January 10 as the new Theatre Supervisor. Tabetha has 13+ years of theatre experience ranging from serving as a Performing Arts Coordinator with the Carroll Arts Center to teaching theatre as an Adjunct Professor and Production Manager at Mount Saint Mary's University.

## **Re: Subcommittee Reports**

- a) **Glenview Mansion (Tom & Dirk)**  
Discussions were held regarding the Civic Center sub-committee, the required members, and its purpose. Paige Janzen will bring formal discussions to Mayor and Council to obtain some direction. Many improvement projects have been on hold due to COVID, however business at the Mansion is picking up allowing for projects to pick back up.
- b) **Swim & Fitness Center (Jack)**  
Subcommittee is putting together a draft budget recommendation with a focus on personnel. Lifeguard training is taking place in January. Classes have picked back up again. Discussions were held looking at what the County is following for COVID restrictions and the mask mandate. Frontline staff have been doing an incredible job helping to enforce the mask mandate.  
The next capital project for the outdoor pool, the redesign target for 2024 and a recommendation was made for the pool be designed with a 25-meter width for lap swimming, giving it dual use. The youth member vacancy has been filled by a student from Rockville HS.
- c) **Recreation and Parks Foundation (Chip)**

The foundation will be participating at the R&P staff breakfast January 28, by donating gift cards to be raffled at the breakfast.

d) **Arts**

***Gateway Art Project (Jonathan):***

No new update.

***Swim Center Art Project (Jack):***

No new update.

***Skate Park Art Project (Jonathan):***

A call went out to local art groups and received four bids. Three of the bids will be invited back for consideration. Next steps will be to invite the three groups for a site visit to assess the space to complete their proposals. Two were murals and one a sculpture. or the Skat Park art Project.

e) **RedGate Park (Kirsten)**

Kirsten enjoys the park on a regular basis and interacts with users to get feedback on their personal experiences.

Tim pointed out that the three concepts that are being presented to Mayor and Council will incorporate as many of the top ten amenities with the majority of the property to remain mostly passive. The project team will be looking for feedback and direction on what modifications Mayor and Council want to see.

**Re: Old Business/New Business**

**New Business**

- Old Business
  - With the recent tree appeals, Jack had suggested that the board with help from Recreation and Parks Forestry, will be developing a cheat sheet to help guide the tree appeal process. Forestry will be sharing information that will aid with developing better guidelines.
  - Kudos to Rockville for imposing a break for indoor basketball sports programs. Although it was a tough choice it was very much appreciated by the families of participants.

**Re: Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

**The next meeting:** February 24, 2022 at 7:00 pm via WebEx