



PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES – September 5, 2017

Members Present: Maureen Renault, Bob Williams, Diana Wenman and Barb Willens.

Unable to attend: Jane Miller and Thelma Rutledge

Staff: Liz Gilland, Urban Forester and Ray Peterson, Deputy Public Works Director

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: October 3, 2017 at 4:00pm / meet at Kendall Lake Clubhouse

The meeting was opened at 4:05 p.m. by Liz. The minutes from the July 2017 meeting were reviewed. Maureen motioned to accept the minutes, Diana seconded and all approved.

CITY UPDATE:

Boykin Park - Painting basketball court in the coming weeks

Kirkwood Common – Several homeowners in the Kirkwood Common area are concerned about the lack of attention to this large historic park. Liz met with Sallie Iselin on August 31st and walked the park for over an hour noting areas needing attention. Namely, pick up branches, deadwood prune, cut down dead trees, treat aquatic weeds in the pond, dredge the pond, bush-hog over-grown areas, etc. Liz discussed the items with Tony Burns, Parks Supervisor who said that First Class Landscaping will start working on some of the items. Other items need to be addressed with the Electric Dept. and private contractors.

Tennis Complex – Construction is around 80% complete. First Class Landscaping got the bid for landscaping and will begin installing plants & trees when the hardscape is complete and the irrigation system has been installed (by Saluda Hills Landscaping) sometime in the coming month or so.

Kendall Lake – The second weed treatment occurred in August and the Lake is looking good. Now we must look towards procuring the sterile grass carp.

Chesnut Hills subdivision – Sidewalk replacement where live oak trees buckled the concrete is not yet completed. Liz needs to meet with the Street Dept. to discuss budget availability.

Construction projects - A variety of building projects are under way (*Camden Elementary School and Hampton Inn*). *The Retreat at Historic Camden* has not yet finalized their site plans and have not begun construction.

Park Irrigation – We hope to install irrigation at Edgewood Park in the coming months.

Powder Magazine Park - No forward movement as the city does not yet own the lot, however the lot needs mowing.

Other – 6 of 7 new trees planted in August are doing ok. We had a tree failure in Hampton Park in late July and a variety of large branch failures. Liz is working on the tree removal list which has approximately 25 – 30 trees



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for removal and at least that many needing deadwood pruning. The drainage ditches in Armory Park need aquatic herbicide spraying, Liz has two quotes for the work.

OLD BUSINESS

Park survey update: Liz thanked the group for attending the City Council meeting on August 8th for the presentation of the park survey results. The members decided that a long-range park plan was more appropriate to develop rather than an actual strategic plan. Liz needs to begin work on it ASAP!

Potential nominees: A couple of names were discussed but no decision made on

NEW BUSINESS

Leader's Legacy Bench Recognition – There was a newly approved bench nomination for former Mayor Tony Scully and his wife Joy. The preferred bench location is Kirkwood Common and all were in agreement with that site. Maureen suggested that perhaps seating areas (or zones?) should be created to focus the locations of the benches within the parks. Liz said that she'd pass along the Legacy bench policy for her to review.

Arbor Day 2017: no concrete ideas have surfaced. Liz will be meeting with the KC Soil & Water Conservation Dist. Board to discuss ideas and partnering *Arbor Day 2017:* Liz asked if anyone had any ideas on who to honor this year. She has someone in mind but wants to check with staff first before moving forward.

Other:

* When discussing the tennis complex, Bob mentioned that tennis used to be a very big recreational activity here in town many years ago. Diane suggested that perhaps an article could be written in one of the local magazines regarding the history of tennis in Camden and the potential economic impact expected from the new tennis complex. All thought it was a good idea and Diana said she'd follow through on it.

* When discussing getting the sterile grass carp for Kendall Lake, Bob was interested in getting some fish as well or knowing a company where he can get some of the fish. Liz said she'd pass along contact for some fisheries.

* Liz thanked the group for participating in the award ceremony during a City Council meeting on August 8th for our 30th Tree City USA anniversary.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10pm.

Respectfully submitted by Liz Gilland, Camden Urban Forester