



WILDWOOD®

Parks Action Plan Update Committee Minutes from the Tuesday, March 27, 2018 Meeting

I. Welcome to Committee Members and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Chair Garrett at 6:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

A roll call of members was taken, with the following results:

Committee Members Present: Broyles, Napoli, Gillman, Strand, McCune, Pickett, Commission Liaison Beattie, Council Liaison Bertolino, and Chair Garrett

Committee Members Absent: Committee Member Coverdell and Council Liaison DeHart

Other Officials

and Staff in Attendance: Mayor Bowlin, Council Members McGowen, McCutchen, and Baugus, City Administrator Thomas, Director of Planning and Parks Vujnich, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks Arnett, and Superintendent of Parks and Recreation Crews.

III. Review and Action on the Meeting Minutes from February 13, 2018

A motion was made by Committee Member Strand, seconded by Committee Member McCune, to approve the February 13, 2018 minutes. A voice vote was taken on the minutes, with no opposition, and the motion was declared approved by Chair Garrett.

IV. Review of Tonight's Agenda

The agenda was reviewed by Chair Garrett. Chair Garrett introduced Jen Pickett, the newly appointed representative for Ward 8. Jen introduced herself and noted her interest in parks. There were no questions.

V. Focus on "Citizens Committee for Park Progress Action Plan 2007" Pages 1-20

Chair Garrett noted the discussion tonight would focus on the first 20 pages of the current Action Plan. He asked if anyone has comments and suggestions on the first section. Discussion was held regarding the following: the four (4) Action Points seem to be in order for the Committee currently, but edits should be made; the main components are reasonable and accurate; on Page 2, relative to Acquisitions, Community Park purchase is complete and should be edited; a new acquisition target should be added; on Page 4,

relative to Funding, sales tax should be discussed, since it failed, and should the Committee recommend another attempt at a sales tax approval; on Page 2 relative to Facilities, there was support for the current wording; the importance of all wards having a connection to the trail system and the Committee's support of links across all of the City; the need to begin considering key locations for acquisition, such as the land Dierbergs had proposed donating to the City; the need for a hub to connect the pieces; on Page 15, was the five (5) year review cycle completed. It was completed by the Planning and Zoning Commission and forwarded to City Council for receipt and filing. No changes were made at that time; and relative to facilities, the Committee noted the importance of linking all spaces, including those opportunities outside of Wildwood to connect with our neighbors.

Chair Garrett asked the Committee Members to review the next twenty-six (26) pages over the next month to discuss pages 21-46 at the next meeting.

VI. Mayor Jim Bowlin - Presentation

Mayor Bowlin provided information to the Committee on the Wildwood 2020 Vision Plan. He noted this plan has five (5) points. One such point is if residents want a public activity venue and, if so, what is it, where is it, and how would it be funded. He requested the Committee review this item and provide direction, so action can be put into place quickly.

Discussion between the Mayor and Committee Members included: questions regarding the intended level of improvements along Manchester Road. It was noted there is a Manchester Road Improvement Committee addressing the improvements along that roadway and the meeting dates and times for the Manchester Road Improvement Committee were discussed, while City Administrator Thomas noted he would send the Committee Members the schedule for the upcoming Committee meetings and the Chair's email address; the pedestrian path proposed along Manchester Road from State Route 109 to Christy Road on the west, which is partially funded by a grant; the streetscape project planned between Eatherton Road and Taylor Road, along Manchester Road; and the streetscape budgeted for construction in 2018, working on easement acquisitions.

VII. Elizabeth Broyles - Presentation

Committee Member Broyles provided an overview of a proposed fifteen plus (15+) acre trailhead acquisition associated with property just east of the Meadows of Wildwood Subdivision, in conjunction with a proposed single-track trail, just less than two (2) miles in length, through Rockwoods Reservation south to Glencoe Road. More than half of the acreage of the trailhead property is level terrain. The trail terrain is steep throughout much of the possible path. She then reviewed a packet of information provided to the Committee Members noting the property has Cultural/Institutional Land Use District designation and a trailhead would be in keeping with such. Committee Member Broyles noted Ward 1 has a lot of green space (Old Pond School, Rockwoods Reservation, Community Park, and Babler State Park), but does not have a rugged mountain trail and this proposal is in compliance with the fourth point of the Mayor's 2020 Vision.

Discussion was held regarding the following: the necessity of purchasing the property, as part of the project; the users of the trail would be limited to pedestrians; the environmental site assessment that had been completed by McBride and Son Homes on the property; the close proximity of the property to the homes in the Meadows of Wildwood on the east side of the development; the existing parking lot on

Christy Road and the trail in nearby proximity; and experiences with past agreements with Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) allowing trail usage. It was also noted, MDC is open to discussions and has not expressed opposition to this proposed trail, but they are skeptical because of the terrain in this area.

VIII. Eric Strand - Presentation

Committee Member Strand provided an overview of a proposed extension of the Al Foster Memorial Trail to the south. The connection would extend to the large holdings just outside of Wildwood, including Route 66 State Park, West Tyson Park, and Forest 44. The extension would be built along the abandoned railroad bed, like the Al Foster Memorial Trail, and could be completed in partnership with Great Rivers Greenway, due to its key connection in the Western Greenway and the overall River Ring. The extension requires ten (10) property owners to dedicate easements and it is his belief there is existing railroad easement through the portion of the extension within the City of Eureka to access Route 66 State Park.

Discussion was held regarding the elevation distance from the homes to the proposed location of the trail and the interest level of the City of Eureka, which historically has been high.

IX. Next Meeting Date – April 24, 2018

No change to the next meeting date.

X. Public Comments

Debra Smith McCutchen, Council Member Ward Five, during Master Plan review process, and within her Ward, there is an interest in the construction of a recreation center, which could include a swimming pool and family activities.

Jim Baugus, Council Member Ward Three, thanked volunteers for their work and assistance with the review of the Action Plan.

XI. Other Items of Interest

Committee Member Gillman noted the handouts provided for Village Green and Velodrome and asked if Ryan had an update. City Administrator Thomas noted he hopes to have an update at the next meeting, following some ongoing negotiations.

With the modifications to the Committee Membership, staff noted a new roster would be emailed to everyone.

XII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

A motion was made by Committee Member Napoli, seconded by Committee Member Gillman, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken, with unanimous approval, and Chair Garrett declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.