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Office of Parks and Operations

PARK AND OPEN SPACE BOARD

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

6:30 PM

Virtual Meeting

Minutes

1) Call to Order, Roll Call

Board Member Bratt called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

Present:

Board Member Joseph Branch
Board Member Peter Bratt
Board Member Geoffery Hurtado
Board Member James Lysaught
Board Member Breanne Plier
Alderman Kathleen Schneider
Board Member Anton Usowski
Board Member Gerald Vite
Vice Chair Jason Cain -- **Absent**
Alternate Alderman Brian Parrish -- **Excused**

Also present were Parks and Forestry Superintendent Gies, and Administrative Assistant Deuster.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. May 19, 2021 Minutes

RESULT: **Approved [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Board Member Vite

SECONDED BY: Board Member Lysaught

AYES: Branch, Bratt, Lysaught, Plier, Schneider, Usowski, Vite

NOT PRESENT: Hurtado

b. May 27, 2021 Minutes

RESULT: **Approved [Unanimous]**

MOVED BY: Board Member Vite

SECONDED BY: Board Member Lysaught

AYES: Branch, Bratt, Lysaught, Plier, Schneider, Usowski, Vite
NOT PRESENT:

Hurtado

3) Parks and Forestry Superintendent Report

a. Parks and Forestry Updates

Parks and Forestry Superintendent Gies provided an update to the board of the resignation/retirement of Chair Marchese. The Board agreed to send a Thank You Letter to Pat Marchese for his time on the Board.

There was an update for the Lemke Park Consultant RFP, result of the Goats in the Park approval with the City. Also an update on the parking lot work done at Rotary Park.

b. 2021 Work Plan

Parks and Forestry Superintendent Gies provided an update on the 2021 Work Plan.

4) Discussion Item

Discussion and Possible Action

a. Finalization of the Budget for 2022

Parks and Forestry Superintendent Gies provided the board with the letter to submit from the board to Common Council with requests for the 2022 budget. The main items being: Restoration of operation and maintenance budget cuts applied for the FY 2021 due to anticipated decrease in revenue, Increase of operation and maintenance, facilities, parks capital -restoration of previous funding, Removal of dead trees due to EAB -restoration of previous funding, parking lots, and additional parks staffing.

The Board discussed a ballpark figure for increase of restoring funds, along with detail of why it is required. The board recommended providing a chart/graph with context for why the increase requests. There was support for each item and agreement to have the board sign the letter after approval in July prior to Common Council budget meetings.

b. Strategic Planning

Parks and Forestry Superintendent Gies stated the consultant would be hired in July and recommended to the board to wait to present the strategic plan from the Park and Open Space Board. The board agreed to review the plan and provide Mike with any corrections or changes prior to the July Park and Open Space Board meeting.

5) Motion to Adjourn at 7:33 PM.

RESULT: Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]
MOVED BY: Board Member Vite
SECONDED BY: Alderman Schneider

AYES: Branch, Bratt, Lysaught, Schneider, Usowski, Vite

NOT PRESENT:

Hurtado, Plier

Respectfully Submitted,

Casey Deuster

Administrative Assistant