

MINUTES

Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board March 14, 2017

The Henderson County Parks & Recreation Advisory Board held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 12:00 noon at the Athletics & Activity Center Conference Room. Board Members Present: Jeff Donaldson, Chairman, Elizabeth Moss, Vice-Chair, Jennifer Hensley, Virgle McClure, Sue Myers, Ralph King, and Scott Rhodes. Absent: Terry Maybin, Corum Smith, Tommy Laughter and Charlie Messer. Staff Present: Tim Hopkin and Diana Edney.

Minutes: Virgle made a motion to approve the February 14, 2017 minutes. Elizabeth seconded. Motion approved.

Public Input:

There was no public input at this meeting.

Adjustment of Agenda:

Jeff made an adjustment to the agenda and moved item # 1 – Greenways Routes (Jackson Park) from **Unfinished Business** to the top of the agenda. – Tim informed the Board that Marcus Jones, the County Engineer and John Mitchell, Business and Community Development Director are here to talk to the Board about the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) option to the Board for the countywide Greenway plan. Marcus and John explained the MPO option. Marcus informed the Board that the county granted the City of Hendersonville an easement in 2013 to construct a sewer line through Jackson Park, with the condition that the City construct a graveled greenway on top of the easement. Marcus said that the City found that the area of the easement would not be suitable for the gravel surface because it is located within the floodway. The City offered the county payment amount of \$173,031. Marcus said the section of the Greenway is between 4th Ave and Four Seasons which floods is estimated to cost \$260,000 to reconstruct. This would include work to elevate the portion of the trail by 3 feet to eliminate the drainage problems that force the Greenway to close. Jennifer suggested building a bridge over this area (mud creek). John said that county staff has identified several ways the City's money could be used for the Greenway:

1. Extending greenway through Jackson Park at an estimate cost of \$125,000-\$280,000
2. Extending on through to the Athletic & Activity Center for \$300,000-\$400,000.
3. Construct a pedestrian bridge over Mud Creek to connect the greenway to the sidewalk at 4th Ave at an estimate of \$300,000.
4. Develop a Department Master Plan, to include a county-wide Greenway plan at an estimate of \$75,000-\$100,000.

Marcus said another option is to utilize the City's offer to leverage a larger grant to do a feasibility study to apply for the MPO. Marcus said the MPO is a good option. Scott said the feasibility study

could do everything, which makes since. Marcus said yes. Jeff asked what the time-frame would be for this study. Marcus said, 4-6 months. Elizabeth asked if the Master Plan could be included in this study. John said yes. Scott made a motion to support the MPO application process and the development of a master plan for the parks and recreation department. Jennifer seconded. Motion passed.

New Business:

1. Kunz Farm Park – Rachel Kipar came to give the Board a presentation on this property and to get the Boards support for this project. Ms. Kipar informed the Board that this 27.82 acres of property was deeded in 1996 to the Community Foundation from the Cadgene family with the stipulation that the County use it as a recreational outdoor park. Rachel said the park concept is to:
 - Design and implement a Riverwalk trail along the perimeter of Westfeldt Park (via pedestrian bridge) across to the French Broad
 - Partner with NCSU's mountain horticultural crops research station to allow farming and crops research
 - Extending parking at Westfeldt Park – will add a pedestrian bridge, this loop will be gravel and is a multi-use path.

There will be 3 phases to this park development **Phase I:** Establish relationships w/local industries, organizations, groups; identify funding, pre-construction design & permitting = \$65,000; **Phase II:** HC Parcel & NCSU Parcel, finalize design/permitting for pedestrian bridge installation, begin Riverwalk development, continue w/grant application & reporting, further stakeholder involvement = \$135,000; **Phase III:** Further enhancements, begin site development, Riverwalk installment = \$280,000. Ms. Kipar is applying for 5 grants, all but 1 are matching grants. Rachel said this park will allow a lot of wellness & recreation benefits. There is the potential for a lot of local involvement and community partners. Jennifer made a motion to draft a letter of support for the Kunz Park Project from the Board. Elizabeth seconded. Motion passed.

2. Mobile Food Vending – Tim informed the Board that the department is looking in to putting together an application for mobile food vending. Tim said fees could be based on a monthly percent or a set fee and would be in-line with the health department regulations. Tim said food vendor trucks would be occasionally used during events, etc. Tim said the application charge could be \$75.00-\$100.00 or 25% of amount they earned. Jennifer said to make sure our fees are reasonable.
3. Programs and Parks Updates – Tim updated the Board on the following:
 - Installing playground equipment at Dana Park.
 - Have Tuxedo Park playground plans, just need to do revisions.
 - Ordered message board for Tuxedo Park, like the one that was installed at EFR Park.

- Pepsi will once again sponsor \$7,000 for the Fourth of July Fireworks and received a grant from TDA for \$3,000 for the balance.
- Youth and Adult Basketball just ended.
- Spring Soccer practices will begin soon and games begin on April 1st
- The footings for Etowah Park concessions have been dug.

Unfinished Business:

See Adjustment of Agenda

Miscellaneous:

1. Virgle asked about new playground equipment for Etowah Park. Tim said not for this budget year.
2. Ralph asked if the fence at the far back end of EFR Park be fixed. Tim said yes.
3. Ralph asked if alcohol can be served at county parks. Tim said no, alcohol is not allowed on county property. Tim said the BOC would have to change the county policy to allow alcohol on county property.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diana L. Edney

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Clerk to the Board

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