

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PARKS COMMITTEE  
OF THE CITY OF ROELAND PARK**

**January 4, 2008**

**(6:00 City Hall Conference Room, 4600 West 51<sup>st</sup> Street)**

**Board Members:**

*Present:* Megan England (co-chair), Jan Grebe, Mark Kohles, Joel Marquardt, and Josh Zaroor (chair)

*Absent:* Mike Miller, Chris Handzel, George Schlagle, Scott Gregory (resigned)

*Quorum Present?* Yes

*Others Present:* John Carter, City Administrator

**Proceedings:**

-Meeting called to order at 6:04 by Chair, Josh Zaroor

**Public Comments:** None

**Business Items**

1. Brief review of last meeting where action was taken to keep the Art in R Park contract the same as it was in Phase One. Minor changes to the application were to be made and the timeline updated. Additional requests for application include images of the artwork superimposed on the image of the proposed location with a human being standing next to the artwork for scale. Also, a request for any current online locations that artwork can be seen. Updated timeline as follows:

2/15/8- applications due

week of 18<sup>th</sup> get electronic versions of applications from Debbie

2/27/8 meeting- be prepared

3/5/8 begin design of promotional materials

3/21/8- contracts signed

3/24/8 postcards to the printer

4/7/8 installation of works

4/18/8 opening

**ACTION ITEM: ME will update application with recommended changes and submit to Debbie Mootz.**

2. The committee discussed how to proceed with the Nall Park Master Plan, but need to know if future funding will be committed before more comprehensive discussions begin and any formal recommendations made. Note: \$100,000 is earmarked the 2008 budget to spend on Nall Park.

3. Briefly discussed beautifying Roe by cleaning up the entrance to public works- create a new fence? Plant trees to cover fence?

4. Will discuss 2008 goals and expectations at next meeting including attendance/participation policy/creation of action groups.

**2007 goals:**

- Mike Miller stated that he would like to see the committee work on the Northeast Johnson County Trail System involving Nall Park.
- Jan Grebe suggested we incorporate environmentally friendly plantings and furnishings in and around our green spaces including xeriscaping and dog waste dispensers distributed around the city.
- Joel Marquardt mentioned making our green spaces more people friendly.
- Everyone agreed that because “park” is in our city’s title, we should try to emphasize our city’s parks and tie the community closer to them.
- Chris Handzel suggested more park identity in the form of signs, lighting, landscaping, etc.
- Megan England would like to see an off-leash dog park in the city, as current laws prohibit such activity.

**Strategies for implementing 2007 goals:**

**A) Identify Roeland Park Parks:** Nall Park, Carpenter Park (next to the library), Granada Park (skate park), Sweeny Park (at Wells St and Neosho), Cooper Creek Park (at Johnson Dr and Roeland Dr), Juniper Pocket Park

**B) Create a map that visually identifies Roeland Park parks**

**C) Invite guest speakers to upcoming meetings and form relationships with- ie:** Roeland Park’s City Forrester, a representative from the Garden Club of America, a specialist in ADA requirements for outdoor spaces

**D) Compile an assessment of each park-** based on factors including WELCOMING- signage, SAFETY/APPROACHABILITY- lighting, ADA needs, FUNCTION- furnishings, user analysis, PLANTINGS-seasonal investments, OPPORTUNITY FOR ART- space, location,

**E) Find ways to capture public input and gain a higher public awareness of committee actions-** suggestions were: utilizing the Roeland Parker by submitting a brief summary of Park Committee items, submitting the agenda and minutes of meetings on the City’s website, eventually adding photos and facts about the city parks and inviting citizens to contribute their input when improving existing or creating new parks, and creating and distributing a city-wide survey to find wants/suggestions for park use in the newsletter, online or possibly at Roefest

**F) Stipulate future involvement in improving existing or creating new parks-** become more of a “task-force” for the Nall Park Comprehensive Plan and work more closely with the Public Works Committee in future projects

**G) Create a list identifying medians and traffic islands and assess their needs and potentials-** strengthen the adopt-a-median program

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan England

Roeland Park Parks Committee Co-Chair