

Minutes
Parks & Trees Committee
Roeland Park, KS
June 9, 2010

Present- Matthew Geary (Chair), Jan Grebe, Andy Betts, Trudy Nepstad, Mike Foltz and Chris Handzel constituted a quorum.

Council Member Present – Megan England

City Staff –John Carter, Debbie Mootz

I. Current agenda modifications

- a. The topic of the Roe Blvd. streetscape was added to the agenda

II. Review last month's minutes

- a. Minutes were not distributed, City Staff will post them upon receipt

III. Megan England update on Council items affecting Committee

- a. **Roeland Park School Site** – Two design firms have been chosen by the selection committee to submit a scope and fee for the master planning services. The Council approved this recommendation and the firms will have until the end of June to submit their scope and fee. Upon receipt the selection committee will meet, discuss, and recommend one of the firms to the Council for award of the project. It is hopeful that this recommendation will go before the Council in mid-July.
- b. **Updates on RFPs for demolition** – a bid from Harvey Brothers Trucking and Wrecking was accepted by the Council at their last meeting for around \$110k to demolish the school building. Upon approval of their insurance and other paperwork they will begin. The City is hopeful they will begin in early July and the demolition process will take around 60 days. Before demolition begins, police departments, armed with paintball guns, will use the facility for training exercises.

IV. Tree Board / Tree City USA

- a. Debbie included a packet of materials with the agenda on the website outlining the process for Tree City USA. She has asked that Parks Committee members review the information and offer and suggestions at the next meeting regarding potential point-earning opportunities. She will also have information related to last year's application.

V. Update on Parks Master Plan to present to Council

- a. Chris Handzel presented details of the Parks Master Plan to the Council at their last meeting. It was mostly well received by the Council. There were a few concerns raised by the Council:

- i. Juniper Pocket Park has not officially been dedicated as a park. The Council acknowledged that they need to do so soon. Megan mentioned the desire to have this on the next Council agenda.
 - ii. The site where the old pool was located is designated as a park. Future updates to the master plan should include reference to this site.
- b. The Council has yet to adopt the master plan for Nall Park, produced by an outside consultant. By incorporating the recommendations for Nall Park in the overall parks master plan, the Council would in effect adopt the Nall Park plan as well. This caused some concern amongst the Council, specifically pertaining to the recommendation of a dog park within Nall Park.
 - i. There was much discussion about the appropriateness of a dog park within Nall Park
- c. Because of the concerns by the Council over the dog park issue, the motion to approve the Parks Master Plan was tabled until the next Council meeting
 - i. After the committee's discussion over the dog park, the Committee felt there were two options in order to get the motion passed to approve the Parks Master Plan
 - 1. Highlight disclaimers already mentioned in the Nall Park Master Plan as well as the overall Parks Master Plan pertaining to the recommendation of the dog park and push to pass the plan as is.
 - 2. Make a motion to remove the dog park recommendation from the Parks Master Plan (this was a suggestion by the Council and seemed to have support).

VI. Roeland Park School Site Master Plan

- a. Mentioned above

VII. Discussion for Community Events

- a. **Movie Night** – Debbie mentioned it will cost around \$920 to have a movie night. This cost includes a projector, screen, and an approved movie. Given the cost, the Committee suggested having one movie night instead of three, and suggested having at the Roeland Park School Site after demolition of the school. The night of Saturday, September 18th was suggested.
- b. **Chalk Art** – The Committee brainstormed ideas for additional events if there could only be one movie night. A suggestion was to host a chalk art event during the 4th of July weekend in the roped-off area of the Bishop Miego parking lot prior to the community fireworks display. City staff will contact Bishop Miego to seek permission and the Committee asked that the event be mentioned in the upcoming city newsletter mailing.

VIII. Members to speak at council meetings

- a. No members were identified at this meeting

IX. Roe Blvd. Streetscape

- a. Megan proposed that the Committee think about potential landscape opportunities along Roe from I-35 to Johnson Drive. City staff provided plans for the existing medians and landscaping. Recommendations could be provided to Public Works to help beautify the corridor. It was suggested that improvements to the medians could be discussed at upcoming meetings.

X. Adjournment