PARKS, RECREATION & GREENWAY ADVISORY BOARD
JUNE 15, 2017
MINUTES

The Parks, Recreation & Greenway Advisory Board (PRGAB) met on Thursday, June 15, 2017, at Barwell Community Center, 5857 Barwell Park Drive, with the following members present:

Amy Simes, presiding
Richard Bostic
Patrick Buffkin
Christopher Dillon
Dexter Hebert
Jennifer Hoverstad
Brad Johnson
Carol Love
Shane Mellin
David Millsaps
David Toms
Charles Townsend

Absent & Excused: Clodagh Lyons-Bastian
Kendall Harris
Jennifer Wagner

Staff Present: Diane Sauer, Scott Payne, Stephen Bentley, Giavonia Harris, David Shouse, Wayne Schindler, Monica Quechol-Bradley, T. J. McCourt, Shawsheen Baker, Kevin Sanders, Megan Anderson, Lisa Ann Utsumi, Tori Voski, Helene McCullough, Ashley Deans

Tori Voski, Director of Barwell Road Community Center, welcomed the PRGAB to the facility. She reviewed programs available at the center.

Chairperson Simes called the meeting to order at 6:03pm. Discussion followed with actions taken as shown:

PUBLIC COMMENTS –NONE RECEIVED

No one asked to be heard.

PRESENTATIONS

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION – ANITRA HALL AND BETH WILSON RECOGNIZED

Monica Quechol-Bradley, Recreation Program Director with the Cultural Outreach and Enrichment Program, reviewed the Cultural Outreach and Enrichment Program and its benefits. She indicated Beth Wilson began volunteering in 2004 supporting the need of the COE Program and is still working with the program. Ms. Wilson was presented with a plaque by Chairperson Simes.

Lisa-Ann Utsumi, Recreation Program Specialist with Cultural Outreach and Enrichment recognized Anitra Hall noting she has a BA in writing and began volunteering at Barwell Road and Marsh Creek Centers and has since completed the ESL teacher's certification at Wake Technical College. Ms. Hall was presented with a plaque by Chairperson Simes.

BEE CITY USA – PRESENTATION – RESOLUTION ENDORSED

Megan Anderson, Sustainability Manager, reviewed what the Bee City USA program would look like for the City of Raleigh and indicated this program is on the Environmental Advisory Board Work Plan. How the certification program works, steps to be taken and the proposed Resolution were explained. The Environmental Advisory Board recommended the previous week that the City of Raleigh become a Bee City noting next week is pollinator week. In response to a question from Mr. Toms, Ms. Anderson indicated we are working and looking at different areas for plantings to attract bees and Union Station as a pilot lot.

Following discussion, Mr. Bostic moved that the PRGAB endorse the Resolution of Raleigh becoming a Bee City, USA. His motion was seconded by Ms. Hoverstad, unanimously passed. Chairperson Simes ruled the motion adopted.

BARWELL ROAD MASTER PARK PLAN – PRESENTATION RECEIVED

T. J. McCourt, Planner, reviewed the Barwell Road Master Park Plan. The Park is a 54.5 acre park in southeast Raleigh at the corner of Rock Quarry Road and Barwell Road. He reviewed the growth in the area noting the park was developed in 2006 in coordination with Barwell Road Elementary School. The community center contains 30,000 square feet is the focus of the park. Exterior amenities were reviewed. Citizens have access to the elementary school's playground, multipurpose field and play courts outside of school hours. The history of the master plan development was reviewed including development of a System Integration Plan in 2013. The eastern portion of the site is undeveloped with dedicated greenway easement running from east to west and sewer easements are located on the eastern portion of the property. The original development of the community center and school reserved space in the western portion of the site is for future active recreation pursuits. The City Council approved moving forward with a regional tennis center in this location in 2012 but site constraints and cost so the tennis center will now be located at Biltmore Hills Park. Staff solicited Request for Qualifications for the master plan in 2016 and chose Design Workshop to work with the community and staff in the development of the Master Plan. The Situation Assessment was approved by City Council and

the CPC members were also approved after which the CPS began the task of formulating a vision for the park and generating a park design. Community input has been gathered as well as feedback during public workshops and CPC meetings. The CPC obtained consensus on the draft master plan at the 5th CPC meeting on May 22, 2017. What the community engagement process included was reviewed. The schedule includes the PRGAB receiving the presentation at this meeting including public comment and the PRGAB will vote at the June meeting and recommendation to City Council on August 15.

Glenn Walters, Design Workshop, reviewed the community engagement events including CPC meetings as well as meeting with the Southeast CAC. The vision, mission and organizing theme was reviewed and noted play, learn and discover creates a simple description of how the park design, management and programming should be considered to provide a meaningful experience for users. He reviewed the plan in detail. A portion of the park site will be used for a more natural use and other areas will be for play/structure. The various areas were pointed out. Priorities for the park were reviewed as well as a place holder for the aquatics center, trails throughout the project and parking on the east and west sides of the park. Work with the transportation department is in the works for having bike lanes, bus stops, access to trails, etc. The hierarchy of the trails were reviewed and pointed out on the plan. Discussion followed regarding the center field and the need for aquatics at this site with Chavis being in such close proximity. Mr. Toms asked if there had been a comprehensive study of athletic fields with Mr. Hisler responding that has not been done at this point. Mr. Townsend asked about an educational wetland close to the school with Mr. Johnson indicating the eastern side of the site would be a great opportunity for that use. Mr. Toms complimented the plan.

Mr. McCourt indicated Mr. Hebert was the liaison for the project and with his connection with the Y and the activity with the teens made it possible to get the teens to participate and talk about the future plans. Mr. Hebert indicated the CPC was a great group to work with.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Ulysses J. Lane, co-chair of the Southeast CAC and member of the CPC, indicated there were concerns about a tennis center coming here but there was opportunity for input when the plan changed. The community never had any say in the planning of the tennis center and noted this is a good opportunity to follow through with items worked on by the group. He stated distance is important regarding how far people travel to these facilities.

Bailey Allred, 2720 Barwell Road, indicated he has lived on Barwell Road for many years. She spoke to connectivity and was excited about increased connectivity and the opportunities provided by the plan.

Tina Certo, 1632 Netherfield Lane, stated she has been on both sides of the fence She indicated the Southeast CAC is huge and the individuals in these communities don’t have the transportation to travel long distances to parks. She indicated the pool was a very contentious issue noting the splash pad was a compromise. She noted Chavis is a little far for a lot of people in this area to travel and felt these types of amenities are needed in this area.

BOARD COMMENTS

Ms. Sauer explained next month the PRGAB will take action and will be presented to the City Council at the August meeting. She indicated if there are any specific questions the PRGAB may have they can send them to Mr. McCourt to address prior to the next meeting.

FOREST RIDGE PRESENTATION – RECEIVED

It was pointed out this property is located at 2100 Old North Carolina 98 Highway in Wake Forest. Phase I development was reviewed including a welcome center, 2 picnic shelters, comfort station, a mountain bike trail, two different playground sections by age groups, a rope course and multi-purpose center. Ms. Baker reviewed the timeline. The fact this property is leased was discussed with Mr. Buffkin asking what happens if the lease expires and Wake County or the Corps of Engineers don't want to renew the lease. Mr. Buffkin indicated there is a lot of talk about a white water center going here near the canoe launch below the dam. Mr. Johnson stated the original master plan has 13 miles of mountain bike trails. It was noted this area is 3 miles from I-540. In response to questioning, Ms. Baker indicated the dedication is proposed to be in the fall.

The update was received as information.

ACTION ITEM

PRGAB FY-18 WORK PLAN – APPROVED

This item had been reviewed at previous PRGAB meetings and was on the agenda for PRGAB action. Mr. Townsend moved approval of the PRGAB FY18 Work Plan. His motion was seconded by Mr. Dillon, unanimously passed. Chairperson Simes ruled the motion adopted.

MINUTES – MAY 18, 2017 – APPROVED

Mr. Mellin moved approval of the minutes with stated correction. His motion was seconded by Mr. Townsend, unanimously passed. Chairperson Simes ruled the motion adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Parks Committee:

Mr. Buffkin indicated an edited version of the Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) policy was sent to the committee. Discussion followed regarding the positive versus negative aspects and the use of remote cameras and times these are allowed. Mr. Buffkin indicated times and places would not be a part of the policy but there would be a place this could be referenced. Sections 2.1.10 (purpose) and 2.3.5 and 1.1.3 (must is stronger than shall) were discussed. Mr. Johnson

expressed the concern that the Big Field would be the home of where UAV use would be located. Mr. Buffkin felt the document should be provided to those concerned and then get their comments and see how they feel. If the policy becomes an ordinance, it is hard to change an ordinance but you are able to make changes to times and locations. Mr. Dillon suggested that the Dix Conservancy see the policy.

Mr. Buffkin reported the Neighborhood and Community Program is coming to completion and will be before the PRGAB in July.

Fletcher Volunteer Awards Committee:

It was reported it is planned to move the awards up 2 weeks to keep the ceremony is Fletcher Theater to April 25. This is still in the planning phase.

GWUT/Greenway and Urban Trees Committee:

Mr. Millsaps reported the Committee met and presented the information and survey results regarding Greenway Parking Areas were presented. Mr. Johnson suggested meeting in July noting BPAC wants to work with the committee on subway coordination.

CITIZEN PLANNING COMMITTEES:

Walnut Creek Wetlands Park CPC:

It was reported there will be CPC meetings on July 13 and July 27.

AD-HOC COMMITTEES:

Sir Walter Raleigh Awards Jury:

Mr. Townsend reported the jury will meet next Wednesday at 12 noon.

LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES:

Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board:

Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board
6/15/17 Meeting Summary for PRGAB

The Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board met on Tuesday, May 23.

Board Chair, Barden Culbreth called the meeting to order, confirmed a quorum and asked for any public comment. He introduced a guest, David Permar, a member of Raleigh City Cemetery Preservation, Inc.

The chair recognized and welcomed Amy Howard who was newly appointed to the board by City Council. Ms. Howard provided some information related to her background and interest in historic cemeteries. She indicated a specific interest to serve on the Outreach and Programming Committee.

The Landscape Committee confirmed that the guiding principles document for the development of a landscape master plan for Mt. Hope Cemetery had been finalized. The committee has started to document the location of recommended improvements on aerial mapping of Mt. Hope and will continue this effort at the next meeting.

The Maintenance Committee did meet in May. Terry Harper indicated that she had a follow-up discussion with Tania Tully on local designation for City Cemetery and Mt. Hope Cemetery and the committee is working to finalize required documentation.

The Outreach Committee is working with department marketing staff on establishing a presence for the recently completed audio walking tour of City Cemetery narrated by Betsy Shaw. It was noted that some additional editing may be required prior to implementation for public use.

Staff recapped recent planning efforts for the second annual statewide Cemetery Workshop to be hosted by and held in Wake Forest this coming October

Under new business, the board voted to send the annual report and proposed work plan forward to City Council. A board photo was taken to be included in the document.

The board discussed committee assignments in light of new members recently appointed to the board. Final assignments will be discussed at the June board meeting. Election of board officers will also occur at the June meeting.

The next meeting of the Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board is scheduled for June 26, 5:30 p.m. at the Tucker House.

Historical Resources and Museum Advisory Board:

Ms. Simes reported the committee met May 24. The time warp fundraiser was June 3 with good participation and $20,000 raised. The next meeting will be June 28.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – RECEIVED

Parks, Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board (PRGAB)

Director's Report June 15, 2017

City Council Updates

June 6, 2017

Contracts and Consultant Services - Walnut Creek Wetland Park Master Plan – Situation Assessment (SA) and Citizen Planning Committee - APPROVED

A situation assessment is the first phase of a Master Plan process and includes a site analysis, community research and data collection, notification to the area's Citizen Advisory Council (CAC), a

community survey, establishment of a public website, and interviews with stakeholders. The process also includes identification of community members and other stakeholders interested and willing to serve on the Citizen Planning Committee (CPC). Included in the Situation Assessment document is the recommended CPC members.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND GREENWAY ADVISORY BOARD (PRGAB)

River Bend Park Phase I Schematic Design - APPROVED

The schematic design for the first phase of development at River Bend Park has been presented to the public and the Parks, Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board. The schematic design will be presented as part of the Parks, Recreation and Greenway Advisory Board's report to the Mayor and City Council for review and consideration of approval.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE HISTORIC CEMETERIES ADVISORY BOARD (HCAB)

Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board 2016-2017 Annual Report and FY2017-2018 Work Plan - APPROVED

Barden Culbreth, Chair of the Historic Cemeteries Advisory Board will present the Annual Report and seek authorization to proceed with items listed on the 2017-2018 Work Plan.

June 12, 2017

Fiscal Year 2018 (FY 18) Budget Approved

The Raleigh City Council unanimously adopted a budget for FY18. The City's net operating and capital budget for FY18 is approximately $919.1 million, which includes a General Fund total operating budget of approximately $490.6 million.

PRCR FY 18 operating and capital budget is ~$84.5M which includes $28.5M Bond funding from 2014 referendum.

Announcements (Dedications, Public Meetings, etc.)

Committee Meetings

Fletcher Awards Committee – Does not have a meeting scheduled.

Parks Committee – Thursday, July 13th at 6pm in City Council, 222 W. Hargett Street
Note: Public comments will be accepted on the draft UAV Policy

GWUT Committee – Does not have a meeting scheduled.

Public Meetings

The first CPC meeting for Walnut Creek Wetland Park Master Plan is scheduled for Monday, June 26 from 6-8 PM. All CPC meetings will take place at the Walnut Creek Wetland Center on the fourth Monday of the month.

Brentwood Park Master Plan Citizen Planning Committee – July 13th at 6:00pm at Brentwood Park and Neighborhood Center.

Brentwood Park Public Meeting #2 – July 27 at 6:00pm at Brentwood Park and Neighborhood Center.

Join us this summer for the **Raleigh Parks Bucket List**

Looking for something fun to do this summer? Explore Raleigh parks while checking items off your Parks Bucket List and Earn Prizes! Here is how it works:

Visit:
Stop by one of our facilities to pick up your own Parks Bucket List and start playing.

Play:
Complete and check off items on your Parks Bucket List! Raleigh bucket list items include fun activities like touring the City of Raleigh Museum, racing horses with friends at the carousel at John Chavis Memorial Park and trying Stand Up Paddle Boarding.

Earn Prizes:
Five completed items will get you ride tickets to use at the Pullen Park train, carousel or the John Chavis Memorial Park Carousel.
Complete ten or more items and you will get a super cool Raleigh Parks Summer Bucket List T-shirt.

Share:
Share photos of your summer fun on social media using our hashtag #parksbucketlist

http://www.raleighnc.gov/content/CorNews/Images/PRecBucketListPicture.jpg

BOARD COMMENTS – RECEIVED

Mr. Millsaps thanked staff for the experience of seeing the diversity of the parks on the tour.

Mr. Johnson referred to the Barwell Plan to make that a bus destination.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt