

MEMORANDUM



TO: Mike Geisel, City Administrator
FROM: Ann-Marie Stagoski, Parks, Recreation & Arts Office Coordinator
SUBJECT: Parks, Recreation & Arts Committee of Council Meeting Summary
DATE: November 6, 2024

A meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Arts Committee of Council was held Wednesday, November 6, 2024 in Conference Room 101 at City Hall.

In attendance were: **Chair Gary Budoor** (Ward IV), **Councilmember Mary Monachella** (Ward I), **Councilmember Mary Ann Mastorakos** (Ward II), and **Councilmember Dan Hurt** (Ward III).

Also in attendance were: Councilmember Merrell Hansen (Ward IV), City Administrator Mike Geisel, Superintendent of Recreation Kari Johnson and residents.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY FROM JULY 2, 2024

Councilmember Hurt made a motion to approve the Meeting Summary of July 2, 2024. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos, and passed by a voice vote of 4-0.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Superintendent of Recreation, Kari Johnson presented the Central Park Tree Plan developed by the Parks Department and the City Arborist. The plan includes removing 9 Ash trees in front of the playground, 3 diseased and hazardous Spruce trees in front of the east pavilion, 2 Pin Oaks and 8 diseased and hazardous Pine trees (22 total). A resident expressed concern that a tree now overshadows the artwork *Maura* which once a year (June 26) during the summer solstice casts its shadow. **Councilmember Budoor made a motion to recommend removing the large pine tree that casts a shadow on Maura. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Monachella and passed by a voice vote of 3-1 with Councilmember Mastorakos in opposition.**
- B. **Councilmember Hurt made a motion to recommend Alan Politte for Emeritus Status for the Parks, Recreation & Arts Citizens Advisory Committee. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos, and passed unanimously by a voice vote of 4-0. This recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for action at their meeting on November 18, 2024.**
- C. **Councilmember Hurt made a motion to recommend approval of Central Park Forestry Management Program. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos, and passed**

unanimously by a voice vote of 4-0. This recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for action at their meeting on November 18, 2024.

- D. City Administrator Geisel introduced the Parks Master Improvement Inventory Proposal. Councilmember Hurt made a motion to direct staff to create a Comprehensive Improvement Inventory Plan. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos, and passed unanimously by a voice vote of 4-0.**
- E. Councilmember Hurt made a motion to recommend increasing dog park fees \$5 per dog and move on to full council. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Monachella, and passed unanimously by a voice vote of 4-0. This recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for action at their meeting on November 18, 2024.**
- F. City Administrator Geisel introduced the Parks Ambassador/VIP Program proposal. Councilmember Budoor made a motion to authorize staff to develop a proposal to establish a Parks Ambassador/VIP program as described in the City Administrator’s communication dated November 1, 2024 and to bring said proposal back to the PR&A Committee for review and recommendation to the full City Council. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Mastorakos, and passed unanimously by a voice vote of 4-0.**

G. Informational Updates

- a. Loss of the Parkway Community Garden will be effective in January – **council directed staff to look for alternatives**
- b. Municipal parks Grant was awarded for the Central Park Playground – embedded logo removed, added shade structure and seating
- c. Aquatic Center Replacement – next step is getting a consultant
- d. Amphitheater Restroom bid received

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. No unfinished business**

IV. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.