



PARKS, RECREATION AND ARTS COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING RESULTS

**July 26, 2021
City Hall Room 201**

Chairperson Mastorakos called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

Those in attendance included:

Councilmember Mary Monachella, Ward I
Chairperson Mary Ann Mastorakos, Ward II
Councilmember, Dan Hurt, Ward III
Councilmember, Gary Budoor, Ward IV

Also in attendance were:

Mayor Bob Nation
Director of Parks, Recreation & Arts, Tom McCarthy
Executive Assistant, Parks, Recreation & Arts, Ann-Marie Stagoski

Agenda Item #1: Approval of Minutes

The meeting results of the June 23, 2021 Parks, Recreation & Arts Committee of Council Meeting were submitted for approval. Councilmember Budoor made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hurt, to approve the meeting results. There being no discussion, the motion was passed by a voice vote of 3 to 0 with Councilmember Monachella abstaining.

Agenda Item #2: Parks, Recreation & Arts Policy Updates

Director McCarthy explained that in 2018 policies changed in an effort to rotate people through committees and offer opportunities to more residents. After some recent discussion, including a year "lost" to Covid, it has been expressed that there was a desire for no term limits. In addition, the balloting for positions on committees was addressed. The Parks, Recreation & Arts Citizens Advisory Committee is recommending that there be no term limits on committee and that nominations and voting for positions be as follows:

Any member of a committee can nominate a candidate approximately two months prior to the election by emailing the Director of Parks, Recreation & Arts.

The director will confirm the nominees' interest and their acceptance of the nomination.

There would be at least one week's notice of the election prior to the first meeting of the new year.

Committee members present at the first meeting of the calendar year may vote by secret ballot.

The policy as presented will have a spelling correction to change "tree" to "three".

Councilmember Hurt moved to move to move both policy updates with one spelling correction, as recommended by PRCAC on to full council. Councilmember Budoor seconded the motion. It was confirmed that there would be a request for nominees in November or December and that the Director would send out via email a list of nominees to the committee at least one week ahead. Members must be present to vote. There being no further discussion, the motion was passed by a voice vote of 4 to 0.

Agenda Item #3: Municipal Parks Grant, Round 22

Director McCarthy explained that there is an opportunity for a grant through the Municipal Parks Grant Round 22. The City could seek \$525,000 (which is the maximum allowed) to help offset the costs of phase 2 of Logan Park. The City would need to fund an additional \$139,925 to complete all components of phase 2. The application is due at the end of August and Director McCarthy typically sends it in two weeks prior.

Included in the grant request would be: grading, an 8-foot-wide concrete trail, two pickle ball courts with fencing, retaining wall, storm water retention, three shade structures, native meadow plantings, landscape buffer, trashcans, benches, park sign, seed for turf and additional amenities, design, engineering, permitting fees, bidding and construction observation. The Parks Department has a good track record for receiving grants and a decision would be made in late December if we are to be awarded the Grant.

Councilmember Hurt moved to accept the recommendation and move this proposal to apply to the grant on to full council. Councilmember Monachella seconded the motion.

There was additional discussion on what would happen if we did not receive the grant and how many municipalities we competed with. There are 87 other municipalities however not all of them apply for grant funding for various reasons. If the grant is not awarded then plans would be reevaluated. Six to seven million in parks funding is awarded each year.

There was further discussion on the width of the trail, the segmented block retaining wall and preservation of existing trees. Councilmember Mastorakos inquired about the trail connectivity options. Director McCarthy explained that it would go north through Logan's property and through Greenleaf Valley subdivision. This has been on the City's Trail and Connectivity Plan for a long time. At this time the Parks Department is still exploring sidewalk connectivity at Schoettler to the trail system at Logan park.

There being no discussion, the motion was passed by a voice vote of 4 to 0.

Agenda Item #4: Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

Agenda Item #5: New Business

Director McCarthy pointed out that membership in committees is dwindling and asked councilmembers to be cognizant if they hear of someone in their ward who may be interested. He suggested they attend a meeting prior to being added to the committee.

Councilmember Mastorakos inquired on the timing of construction of Logan Park. Currently it is going through an approval process with Metropolitan Sewer District and waiting on supplies to come in. By the fall there should be earth moving, a bathroom and playground. The parking lot will be closer to winter installation.

Agenda Item #6: Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Mastorakos adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.