

Chesterfield Parks, Recreation and Arts Advisory
Committee Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2017

Minutes taken by Tricia Whelan

Attendees: Cindy Lau, Darcy Capstick, Tricia Whelan, Don Collins, Alan Politte, Laura Schellenberg, Mary Monachella, Kelli Unnerstall, Alan Keathley, John Gruender, John Nations
Staff Liaison: Tom McCarthy; Committee Chair: Mike Whelan
Council Liaison: Guy Tilman.

Mike Whelan called the meeting to order.

Approval of February minutes.

The minutes of the February 11, 2017 minutes were approved as amended on a motion by Darcy Capstick and seconded by Don Collins.

Tom McCarthy stated there is a new Member of this committee, Robert Kilo. He is absent today and will be introduced at a future meeting.

Meeting Places Review and Placement Recommendation

Tom McCarthy discussed the history of City art placement. The most recent Art Piece was chosen by 4-5 members who volunteered from this committee. Leland Drexler-Russell, the Artist, calls the piece "Flow". Flow will feature 5 clusters of aluminum cattail sculptures. Mr Russell is presently creating the Art piece. The placement of the cattails piece at the Central Park Lake had been previously determined by Park staff, however, due to recent changes in the Placement Policy, it will be brought back to this committee and discussed for placement approval by the committee at the next meeting.

Tom McCarthy sent the following email to the committee on 3-7-2017: At the previous meeting, the committee discussed the new policy and approval process for long term art in the parks that we are recommending to the Parks Committee of Council and then on to the full Council. We will now be looking at the Sculpture "Meeting Places" that is currently over behind the Amphitheater around the lake. We will be reviewing where it is and where the advisory committee would like to recommend it be placed/moved. The email included a picture of the piece called "Meeting Places. Tom McCarthy requested emails from the group regarding potential places for this piece of Art.

Mary Monachella emailed the committee on 3-7-2017 and recommended the Field of Dreams due to the whimsical nature of the piece and its bright colors. (Option A)

Laura Schellenberg emailed the committee on 3-8-2017 and recommended placement in front of the Parks Office as it would be eye-catching with its bright colors. (Option B)

Tom McCarthy asked the committee for discussion about this Art Placement. Laura Schellenberg suggested leaving the piece where it is as there will always be someone unhappy with the Art or the placement. Guy Tilman stated that there were more than just a few people who complained about the placement. Alan Keathley asked what the cost would be to move the piece as we want to be careful on

how we spend tax payers money. Tom McCarthy estimated \$200.00 to \$300.00 as the staff typically does the installation. Alan Politte asked about the Aspire piece which is also located at Central Park. It was an art competition that Chesterfield Arts handled. There was discussion about whether children would climb on the piece if it was at the Field of Dreams. There was discussion on whether the piece would face Highway 40. There was discussion on the specific placement at the Parks Building, whether by the Flags or closer to the road. It was noted there is less traffic at the Parks office.

It was noted that one disc has been removed from the art piece where it is located at its current location at Central Park. It was defaced just two days ago.

Guy Tilman stated that we are trying to include the citizens in the art placement so that it is not just a staff decision. It helps to have residents decide and have input. Tom McCarthy discussed the new policy that has been proposed. Alan Keathly commented that Option A does not work well as the piece does not have much to do with sports. It would be more appropriate at the Parks office or to let it stay where it is. It was suggested that flowers could be put at the base of the piece to help it look more friendly. John Nations asked what is the purpose of the Art Program? We don't want Art to become Politics. What are the goals of the Art Program? There will never be 100% buy-in as Art is subjective. Please do not turn the placement of Art into a public issue. Mike Whelan suggested that perhaps we need our own Art Steering committee since Art is a new addition to this committee. We do have a wonderful Arts Community.

Guy Tilman stated that the committee of council is looking for a recommendation on the placement of the art piece.

Choices are:

1. Current location
2. Field of Dreams
3. Parks Office
4. Study the issue further

The committee needs to vote on whether we should move it or keep it where it is. Alan Keathley made a motion which was seconded to keep the piece where it is. This motion failed 3 to 8. A motion was made to move the piece to the Field of Dreams and it was seconded. This motion failed 5 to 7.

More discussion was had regarding placement at the Parks Building. Cindy Lau made a motion to move it to the Parks Office. The exact location would be determined later. There was additional discussion. Alan Keathley suggested moving it to another location such as Long and Edison Road near the levee trail parking lot. Alan Politte discussed putting the piece in front of the flags at the parks office. Discussion continued.

Tricia Whelan asked that all motions be cancelled due to confusion on whether motions had been seconded and whether more than one motion was currently on the table. This was approved.

Alan Politte then made a motion to move the colorful art piece known as "Meeting Places" from Central Park to South of the flagpole at the Chesterfield Parks office. John Gruender seconded the motion. Discussion was held. The vote was taken and the motion passed with seven in favor and three opposed.

Tom McCarthy stated that Guy Tilman is our council liaison. He will provide an update to the committee of council. We still have to get the policy approved, then we will get the placement approved. It will be presented to the committee of council. Then the recommendations will go to the full council.

Farmers Market/Party off the Parkway

Cindy Lau is the Chair of this committee. Cindy Lau discussed this event. The concept is that it will be the First Thursday of every month. We will do it once a month beginning in May, 2017 to see if it is successful. There will be micro businesses, cheeses, bread, mushrooms, and possibly a high end boutique. Those are the types of vendors we are looking to showcase, not crafty but special. We would like to get a \$3,000.00 donor for each event. We have a donor for \$2,000.00 for the first event. This donor is anonymous. Tom McCarthy is working with the layout and the police needed for the event. We will have a restaurant at the Event such as Annie Gunns, Pappys, or Sugarfire. We are thinking of providing tote bags. We want to have special produce. We would like live entertainment. We are looking at the Three Pedros.

Volunteer Sign Up

Tricia Whelan discussed the volunteer opportunities and passed around the Volunteer spreadsheet. Everyone was encouraged to volunteer at an Event. It was noted that volunteers can be friends or neighbors of the committee also.

Tom McCarthy discussed the upcoming volunteer recognition party. Mike Whelan discussed the volunteer recognition being awarded to Michelle Keesal.

Alan Keathley commented on the recent small business expo. Tom McCarthy stated that the tournaments held throughout the year are sent out to all the restaurants so they can prepare for the events. Fox and Hounds was overwhelmed by the number of softball players at a recent tournament. It was discussed whether there was a parks budget for vests, nametags, lanyards, etc. for the parks volunteers.

Updates

Tom McCarthy discussed the new programs. There will be a huge sports tournament in July. The 2017 Spring Guide was distributed. The City is considering renting space at the mall for the Senior Task Force. The Senior Sampler is April 7, 2017.

Darcy Capstick updated the committee on the Earth Day Festival. CCE's 26th Earth Day is Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 pm at Chesterfield Mall from Center Court. It will be both indoors for vendors and performers and outdoors for re/cycling. They will be giving away two dogwood trees at Earth Day. In addition, on April 28, 2017, which is National Arbor Day, there will be a tree planting at Eberwein Park at 1:00 p.m. On April 8, there will be a tree planting for our observation of MO Arbor Day at 9:15 a.m. after PRACAC meeting at the Parks HQ office. CCE and PRACAC will be planting three trees. All are invited to attend. Darcy Capstick discussed the St. Louis County-Dept. of Health – Waste Management Group competitive 2017 Grant which had just received the required City Council filing verbiage. If we receive this Grant, it is for a Pilot Recycling Project at the Amphitheater and will provide for uniform and consistent recycling language, and units. If successful, this model could be used throughout our nationally-accredited Parks System.

Tom McCarthy said to mark your calendars for the Veterans Honor Park grand opening. It is May 3, 2017 at 5:30 pm. It is going to be stunning. They are working on a flyover.

New Business

Tom McCarthy asked if anyone was interested in joining the CCE or the Senior Task Force to let him know. He will have Bonnie come speak to the group about the task force.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.