

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 5, 2019

Therese Longe, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at 851 S. Eton.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Carmona, Ross Kaplan, Therese Longe, Ellie Noble, John Rusche, Lilly Stotland and Bill Wiebrecht

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Meehan

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: CeCe Cousins, Seaholm Student

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Jakob Sayers, Seaholm Student

ADMINISTRATION: Lauren A. Wood, Director of Public Services
Carrie A. Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator

GUESTS: Patty Blair, John Butcher, Laurean Butcher, Brad Coulter, George Dilgard, Pam Graham, Heidi Geissbuhler, Lisa Kaminski, Joshua Kramer, Tina Krizanic, Brian Jones, Paula Jones, Gary Piotrowicz, Cindy Rose, Dan Sullivan and David Young

It was moved by Heather Carmona, seconded by Ross Kaplan that the minutes of the January 8, 2019 regular meeting be approved.

Yeas – 7 Heather Carmona, Ross Kaplan, Therese Longe, Ellie Noble, John Rusche, Lilly Stotland and Bill Wiebrecht

Nays – 0
Absent -1 John Meehan

AGENDA ITEM #1: Pick Your Passion

Lauren stated that the directive from the City Commission to the Parks and Recreation Board was to review the 2018-2022 Parks and Recreation Master Plan's 5-year capital projects, identify facility and park needs, public engagement process to identify a priority list and send City Commission a recommendation for consideration.

Lauren stated the Master Plan Sub-Committee has met regularly to focus on the City Commission tasks and has reports monthly to the Parks and Recreation Board. Lauren stated that the sub-committee identified from the 2018 Parks and Recreation Master Plan ten (10) categories for potential Facility and Park improvements projects.

Lauren stated that the ten categories are:

- Adams Park Redevelopment:
 - Implementation of Park Concept Plan in its entirety
- Booth Park Phase III:
 - Entry Plaza with seating, gardens
- City-wide Playground Improvements:
 - Updated Outdated and Aging Equipment- Considerations for Inclusive Needs
 - Crestview, Howarth, Lincoln Well, Pembroke, Springdale and St. James
- Poppleton Park Playground:
 - New Inclusive Playground
- Kenning Park:
 - Improve two (2) existing ballfields
 - Create an inclusive playground
- New Splash Pad
- New Pickleball Courts
- Rouge River Trail Corridor Improvements:
 - New trail entry plazas/trailheads
 - Signage/connectivity
 - Streambank stabilization
 - Connect Willits to Maple at the Museum
 - New stone steps, accessible path and seating
- Birmingham Ice Arena
 - 1973 facility
 - Refrigeration System Replacement
 - Year Round facility
 - Locker Room Expansion
- Springdale Gold Course
 - Irrigation System Replacement
 - Cart Path Improvements

Lauren stated that in 2001, the Birmingham residents voted to invest in Facilities/Parks.

Lauren stated the total estimated improvement costs for the **Parks and Recreation Bond for the categories listed above** would be \$12,005,000 and potential funding sources would be a Parks & Recreation Bond, supplemented by grants, donations and public/private partnerships.

Lauren stated that the Master-Plan Sub-Committee will gather information from tonight's meeting, online poll, and feedback/input received from the 2018 Master Plan process and will present a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Lauren stated that the Parks and Recreation Board will make a recommendation to the City Commission for consideration.

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Therese opened the meeting for public comment. Therese stated after public comment that stickers will be handed out to rank the projects that have been discussed, ranking them 1-10, with 1 being the best and 10 being the least favorite. Therese stated to the public if they have voted on line not to vote again this evening.

Brad Coulter asked if Poppleton playground is just being voted on or is the entire Poppleton Park Master Plan which included sidewalks. Therese stated that just the playground will be voted on this evening.

Pam Graham asked what the costs would be on the playground improvements. Pam stated that if there is passion for developing neighborhood playgrounds and Adams Park was left off a list that it should be considered as a group since Adams Park is need of improvements.

Gary Piotrowicz stated he is here to support the improvements of Birmingham Ice Arena which is need of improvements based on the usage from the Birmingham Hockey Association and the Birmingham High School teams and that the locker rooms are very small.

Joshua Kramer stated the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena is a great facility and is need of locker room expansions.

Tina Krizanic stated that she is representing Museum Board and is excited to see the Rouge River Trail Corridor Improvements shown. Tina stated she is very interested in the improvements at the Birmingham Ice Arena also since both her daughters utilized the facility.

Heidi Geissbuhler stated that Kenning Park would be a better fit for a new inclusive playground. Heidi has several concerns regarding street parking at Poppleton Park, **specifically no parking on the east side of Oxford**. Heidi stated that there are drainage issues at Poppleton Park that needs to be addressed.

Therese stated that **at Poppleton Park** two-cut out handicap parking spots are proposed and before the project would be implemented the plans would be reviewed by several departments and boards before the project would proceed.

Dan Sullivan stated that City of Birmingham Parks all have some issues or concerns such as drainage and other city parks are in need of playground upgrades. Dan stated that if a value could be added to all the proposed projects would be helpful.

Therese stated to the public in attendance to place the stickers on the projects that have been discussed, ranking them 1-10, with 1 being the best and 10 being the least favorite.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #1: 2019 Parks and Recreation Board Roster

Connie provided to Parks and Recreation Board a current Parks and Recreation Board Roster.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #2: Kenning Park Ballfields Update

Lauren stated that the Kenning Park Ballfield has opened bids on this project and a report will be presented that the February 25, 2019 City Commission meeting for bid award and will be going to the lower bidder.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

NEW BUSINESS:

Carrie stated that the Barnum Park Outdoor Ice Arena is now opened.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Therese Longe stated the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:30 pm at DPS.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm

Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator