

Wesley Chapel Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2009

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Wesley Chapel Parks and Recreation Committee was called to order at 7:15 on 7/20/09 in Wesley Chapel Town Hall by Sondra Bradford.

Present:

Greg Miller, Marnie Holland, Julie Brown, Elaine Rossof

Visitors/Staff:

Sondra Bradford (liaison to Council), Carol Mullis, Joshua Langen (Zoning Administrator)

• Approval of Agenda

Item 2 (Approve Minutes) was deferred until August meeting. Added 7a. Park Examples. Amended agenda was approved unanimously.

• Approval of Minutes

Deferred until next meeting.

• Solicit Carolina Thread Trail Representative

- The Carolina Thread Trail is seeking representatives from municipalities in Union County to serve on a committee to map out potential greenways throughout the county. They would like a principal representative, and possibly an alternate position as well. Marnie Holland volunteered to represent Wesley Chapel if no others wish to do it. Elaine may wish to be alternate.

• Survey Update

- 100 surveys have been entered into the system. Elaine Rossof is willing to help with data entry.

• Master Plan Update

- Once survey complete will be able to finish the Master Plan. Marnie will help Julie gather data for Southbrook, Siler programs. A logo to brand our group would be helpful. Greg suggests a round seal for Wesley Chapel

with each quarter representing a department, and Parks & Rec would have a tree.

- **Pricing Data for Park Amenities and Upgrades**

- Several properties are under consideration. Maintenance costs and issues should be priced out for each option. The properties are:
 - Price Park
 - Dogwood Acres
 - 6 acres donated by Aston Properties by commercial center
 - 2.5 acres donated by JDH behind Lowes
 - Partnering with Wesley Chapel Swim Club
- John Lepke has pulled together some financial data regarding Dogwood Acres and the Aston Properties site.
- Dogwood Acres Amenities/Upgrades
 - Driveway expanded to handle two-way traffic
 - Parking
 - Lighting
 - A locking gate
 - Julie commented that Col. Beaty Park in Matthews charges \$475 for 5 hours for their community facility. If the house is upgraded, this could be a revenue generator. Greg Miller estimates would cost \$50,000 - \$60,000 to upgrade with handicapped bathroom, rails, receptionist area, etc.
 - If held a large event there, could have overflow parking to Southbrook and WCWAA if they were willing. Would have to hire deputies.
- Price Pond
 - May need more land to make it work well, at least for parking. Will investigate to see whether strictly necessary. The Keels' are willing to sell some additional land on the west side, which may be adequate.

- Need board walk around the back section of the lake where it's marshy

Need to find out what insurance will be needed to run a park and get water and sewer status.

Joshua Langen suggests to start working with the donated properties and work our way down.

Sondra reports Wesley Chapel Swim Club might have some land they could lease or sell to keep them afloat. Julie suggests a Red Box program would be good for the Swim Club location. Joshua suggested the possibility of a teen center. Could be like Saturday Night Siskey, which provides supervision to kids for \$9/person.

Julie suggests we settle property needed for park(s), and then implement amenities in phases as we receive grant money.

Need to compile costs for sidewalks and paths. Sondra will ask Stonegate for price of recently upgraded walkway.

Greg and Marnie are going to investigate Dogwood more thoroughly, Marnie regarding the grounds and Greg regarding the house. Julie will look into Price Pond and Swim Club.

Carol Mullis brings up survey where majority of citizens wanted town hall located on the 6 acres donated by Aston. Other location sites weren't part of that survey, however. Discussion ensues on Downtown property uses. Julie suggests Aston may wish to buy the property back. Carol Mullis suggests an EMT/Ambulance Service on the 2.5 acres at JDH. Elaine will contact the Downtown Committee with those suggestions.

- **Park Examples**

- Marnie shared photos of a park in Illinois.

- **Tentative Timeline**

- The Local Government Committee (at the State level) has to approve purchasing any property. Have to meet with them 30 days ahead, talk to banks, hold a public hearing. Process takes between 3 and 4 months.

- **Path Forward**

- The WC Swim Club will send representatives to the August 17th meeting to discuss potentials for partnership.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm by Sondra Bradford. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 pm on 8/17/09 at the Wesley Chapel Town Hall.

Minutes submitted by: Greg Miller/Sondra Bradford

Approved by: _____