

VILLAGE OF WESLEY CHAPEL
PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 27, 2020 - 6:30 P.M.
6490 Weddington Road, Wesley Chapel, NC 28104

Committee Members Present: Chair John Lepke, Brad Horvath, Wayne Todd, Pat Utley, Alternate Brian Martin, Alternate Pam King

Council Liaison: Mike Como

Committee Members Absent: Julie Brown, Julie Thomas, Jerry Davis

Others Present: Guests: Karen Horvath

Amy Mumpower-Administrative Assistant

Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Chair Lepke introduced Amy Mumpower, the new Administrative Assistant.

Additions, Deletions and/or Adoption of Agenda

Chair Lepke amended the agenda by adding 3 items:

- 1) NC Storytelling Guild- interested in holding story telling events at the park
- 2) Park repairs update
- 3) Five Stones Church

Approval of December 18, 2018 Regular and Special Meeting Minutes

Minutes were distributed from the November 12, 2019 Regular Meeting, and Special Meetings held on December 5, 2019 and December 12, 2019. Chair Lepke asked if any deletions or changes need to be made to any of the minutes. Ms. King stated that she was absent at the Special Meeting held December 5, 2019 but was listed as present.

Chair Lepke asked for a motion to approve all the minutes with the above correction on the December 5, 2019 Special Minutes. Ms. Utley made motion and Mr. Todd seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

February 10, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Update

Chair Lepke attended the council regular meeting and presented the playground bids that were received. Each bid was above the \$100,000 budget, and upon discussion, Council directed him to rebid. Council unanimously felt that the playground should be done properly and something to be proud of so that it will be durable and enjoyed for years to come. The rebids were sent out with two changes: poured-in-place rubber for the ground and fencing all around. All other specifications remained the same.

Playground Re-bids and Recommendations to Council

Rebids were due February 26, 2020. Ms. Thomas, who could not attend tonight's meeting, saw the bids and gave her opinion. Chair Lepke outlined the process of analyzing the bids. They will be reviewed one at a time with a recommendation vote at end of discussion. He instructed the committee to not be concerned about the colors shown as we can choose the color palette later. It does not affect pricing. The recommended playground can be planned out in more detail (equipment, design, colors, etc...) once council approves. He described how the poured-in-place rubber is installed (4" gravel for drainage, then 4"-8" of rubber). This type of covering has about a 15-year life span whereas mulch will need to be replaced every year. All bids included poured-in-place rubber ground cover and a 4'high, vinyl coated, commercial grade fence with toddler and maintenance vehicle gates. Ages specified were toddler-12 years old. Chair Lepke asked that the deciding factors that everyone considers are the variety and fun options for the children, the appearance, quality, price and references. The bid proposals are:

- 1) \$95,686.51 Cunningham Recreation
- 2) \$123,389.48 Playground Packages
- 3) \$121,267.98 Barrs Recreation Option 1
\$132,944.80 Barrs Recreation Option 2
- 4) \$140,610.80 Carolina Recreation

Need to verify how long bid prices are good for as construction cannot start until after the Easter Eggstravaganza on April 11, 2020 and must be completed by May 25, 2020 for the Memorial Day event.

Chair Lepke told the committee that Clerk Bennett informed him there is an item called "Fees in Lieu" with \$123,000 and suggested that it can possibly be used if necessary prior to pulling from other line items. Also, there is no longer time to request bids for security cameras that were planned for the park before the fiscal year end, which was budgeted at \$20,000. Therefore, this will allow the committee to consider the highest bid.

Mr. Horvath asked about equipment warranties, Chair Lepke stated they are all similar (about 10-15 years).

Chair Lepke suggested another option- to eliminate the carousel from the Carolina Recreation spec which would decrease price and provide a more "apples-to-apples" comparison between that and Barrs Option 2. He stated there is not a clearly defined budget anymore (was \$100,000) due to the additions of the ground covering and fencing as it was deemed necessary in order to be built properly.

Ms. Utley made a motion to recommend the Carolina Recreation bid with the provision that the carousel be dropped if necessary to decrease cost. Mr. Todd seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Lepke stated this was Ms. Thomas' preferred option. Liaison Como inquired if safety inspections of the playground are required and if that will be an additional expense. It will be looked into further.

Sponsorship Policy Update

A Sponsorship Policy has been created and is in process of being reviewed. Edits were made from previous meeting and sent out to the committee. There are concerns about Section 2, items 1B and 1C. Ms. King will review it and make final edits and discussion will continue at March's meeting.

2020-2021 Budget Proposal

Chair Lepke distributed a draft of the proposed budget for 2020-2021. He discussed each line item and what it was for.

- 1) \$600 revenue was earned for the first time from Beer Sales at a previous event. Some of the amount will go back to the village, and the remainder will fund Veteran's Causes and a Rotary Club scholarship.
- 2) **The landscape maintenance contract was discussed. The contract for the current landscape company is expired, but they have continued working. The committee may need to anticipate a cost increase as the landscaper also has a contract with Chair Lepke's HOA and was the lowest bidder with a 30% fee increase. Chair Lepke mentioned the following options: a) continue as is b) ask landscaper if he will accept a new contract at the current rate and if not then contact will need to be rebid c) hire a permanent employee d) rebid the contract. Chair Lepke will do an analysis regarding having a contractor vs. employee. He will have it finished and distributed to committee prior to next meeting to discuss then. Budget is due to council at the end of March. Having a full-time employee will enable he/she to handle projects that are in the budget (tree removal, etc...) and may decrease costs. However, the proper landscaping equipment will need to be purchased for both Dogwood Park and Town Hall.**
- 3) Movie Nights- a projector, screen and popcorn machine are needed. Ms. Thomas is checking into what licenses are necessary to hold movie nights for the public.
- 4) Other major capital outlays were discussed. The first was water for the Dog Park. It is currently set up in large containers for people to dispense. We will be hooking it up to a water line. Cost is \$5000.
- 5) Parking lot and asphalt trails need to be resurfaced and an RFP is currently out. It will need to be scheduled between events as the park may need to be closed for 2-3 days.

Other Items

Jerry Davis has submitted his resignation as a committee member. Brad Horvath has applied and been approved. Mr. Horvath was asked for his help with planning and obtaining Sponsorships. Materials need to be created with sponsorship levels and promotions, recognitions, etc... Perhaps Ms. Thomas, who has marketing experience, may be able to assist with this.

Citizen Survey- the committee was asked to start thinking about what types of questions/input they would like to have on a citizen survey. Will discuss further at next meeting.

Remembrance Walk (at the North Bank)

Chair Lepke proposed the creation of a Remembrance Walk at the North Bank area. It will be a way to remember loved ones who have passed on, especially for those who do not live near the burial sites. The idea for this walk is to have to have perpetually blooming trees and evergreens in a tranquil, quiet, beautiful walking environment for people to go think about their loved ones. The trees will be purchased by residents in memory/honor of loved ones. Committee members

felt the trail will need to be as nature-like as possible, and not have a lot of plaques. Preference was to have a larger plaque at beginning and end of trail stating the purpose of the walk and have the names there. Chair Lepke will draw up a design to discuss at March meeting.

Upcoming Events

1) Easter Extravaganza (April 11, 2020)

- Amy is working on event permits
- Liaison Como is updating banners
- Clerk Bennett will handle hiring deputies and ordering the porta johns and sinks.
- Entertainment: DJ, Nature person- all committee members would like to fund these expenses. No motion needed as it is already in the budget.
- Southbrook Church will organize the egg hunt, Easter Bunny, games, and bounce house

2) Memorial Day Event (May 25, 2020)

This event will be a fundraiser to support *Semper Fi*, an organization that helps all wounded Veterans and their families. Activities will include a car show, Touch-a-Truck (possibly tank, ambulance, police car, construction equipment), Car Show, live music, food trucks, beer, and a helicopter flyover. It was decided that instead of a set entry fee for the car show, we will request that voluntary donations of at least \$25 be donated to *Semper Fi*. The time of the event was discussed, preferably ending when it is dark. Cleanup time and the fact that it is a school night

needed to be considered. The time chosen was 1-6pm.

Update on Repairs

There were major wash outs from the recent storms. Liaison Como with the assistance of Five Stones Church moved 15,000 pounds of gravel that was displaced. Pastor Owen at Five Stones Church would like to become more involved with helping the committee and park.

NC Storytelling Guild

NC Storytelling Guild approached the committee about having storytelling events. Perhaps it can be a regular event at the park. Ms. Thomas will follow up with the contact person, Deborah Wrinkler.

Adjournment

Mr. Todd motioned to adjourn. Chair Lepke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.

John Lepke, Chairperson

Prepared by Amy Mumpower,
Administrative Assistant