

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, MONTANA
PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 21, 2021 – 7:00 P.M.

Because I got behind on Minutes, this is a list of items pending from past 3 meetings. The (dates) reflect the date the the 'assignment' was made. See corresponding Minutes for more information.

Carol Berg

- When the muddy season is over, schedule a Committee visit to the Short Park to see if the donation will provide access to the River (4/7/21)
- Have budget discussion with Mayor (4/7/21).
- Get Master Plan documents from Mark McDanel(4/21/21)

Kelly Huffield

- Speak with school: Does it needs playground funds from the Race for this Place? (4/7/21)
- Request list of businesses that will be needed by Tintina. (4/21/21)

Jen Frazer

- Finalize McStravick Park landscaping/irrigation plan/bid paperwork. (4/21/21)
- Check with DNRC on Short Park funding opportunities/ suggestions, etc. (4/21/21)

Maggie Johnston-Roatch

- Speak with Sheriff Lopp about parks vandalism and the City's options to control/monitor this. (4/7/21)
- Speak with City about *Adopt A Spot* program (4/7/21)

Pattie Berg

- Ask the Mayor:
 - To give neighbors of Short Park notice that they need to make plans to remove their personal property from City property. (4/7/21).
 - If the man remodeling Wheeler's place across from Short Park received City permission to put in a garden on City property. (4/7/21)
- Measure area behind service lines for possible basketball hoops. (4/7/21)
- Locate supervisor for tennis court installation. (4/7/21)
- Locate help for writing a Master Plan. (4/21/21)
- Draft Master Plan introductory/background sections. (4/21/21)

Call to Order

Members Present: Carol Berg, Jen Frazer, Maggie Johnston-Roatch, Kelly Huffield

Others Present: Pattie Berg (City Liaison)

Public Comment

None

Committee Reports on Time Sensitive Work Assignments

Kelly Huffield: the light has been installed at Joanna's park. No electric to it yet, but yahoo anyway!

Carol Berg:

- The bids for concrete and fencing work are in process.
- Mark McDanel found a parks plan. He's not sure which plan, but is going to share it with Carol Berg.

Jen Frazer:

- Nothing yet from the Bair Foundation on the grant application.
- Ms. Frazer brought a proposed irrigation plan for McStravick Park. The Committee reviewed the plan. After the plan is finalized, the request for bids can be placed in the paper. Carol Berg made a motion to accept the Ms. Frazer's proposed landscaping plan. The motion was seconded by Jen Frazer and passed unanimously.

Work Session on Master Plan

The Committee members reviewed the information on the University or Delaware's website about the contribution of parks to a community, how to write a Parks Master Plan, and the role of Master Plans in funding. The Committee then held a wide ranging discussion about the goals and contents of a Master Plan for the City of White Sulphur Springs. Committee member observations included:

- It is going to be very important to engage the public in this process, and the Committee will have to come up with creative ways to bring the public in. It may be possible to have citizens complete a parks questionnaire when they come in to pay their water bills. Other steps will be identified later.
- The Committee would like to have a link similar to the Planning Committee's link on the City's website so the public can easily access Parks information and Committee work products.
- The Master Plan would only address parks within the City limits, but should also 'give a nod' to the recreation assets close to town, such as lakes, camp grounds, hiking, the Smith River, etc.
- The earlier master plan was written with the assistance of a planning student. The recent Growth Plan process was a great process, but expensive. Maybe the American Planning Association or a similar group would have some low or no cost assistance. Pattie Berg will check.
- Because the presence of parks is one factor that drives companies to cities, the University of Delaware suggests that Parks Master Plans include a discussion of current and anticipated economic development. Kelly Huffield will check with Rob Scargill to get his list of the support services/businesses the mine will need.
- There seems to be an interest in a walking trail around White Sulphur. CTEP funds may be available to assist in this effort. A possible route went from the golf course to Garfield to Sixth to Main.
- Developing Short Park is likely going to require outside funding. Jen will follow up with DNRC as a possible source of funding or resource for project ideas/funding ideas.
- There is no need to start from scratch with a Parks Master Plan: there are plans out there that can be used as a resource/ to build upon. Pattie Berg offered to put together background information for the Master Plan (e.g., benefit of parks to communities, population information, status of current parks, etc.) The next meeting will be devoted to setting up a plan to engage the public, what to ask the public, and to assign tasks.

Set Next Meeting Date/Time

The next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 12, 2021, via zoom.

NOTE: This has been rescheduled to May 19, 2021 at 4:00 p.m., via zoom and in person.

Adjourn

On a motion made by Kelly Huffield, seconded by Jen Frazer, and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.