

Winchester Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, March 5, 2012
6:30pm

Meeting Location: Lord Fairfax Room

Present: Krista Farris (Chair), John Elliott (Vice-Chair), Catherine Mattens, Jules Bacha, Matt Mintschenko, Kyle Homan and Brian Wigley

Absent: None

City Staff: Brad Veach (Director), Lisa Hamaker (Assistant Director)

Council:

Media: Vic Bradshaw (Winchester Star), Candice Sipos (Northern VA Daily)

Guest: John Bentley

Krista Farris called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Public Comments: None

Chairman's Report

Approval of January Minutes:

Upon a motion by John Elliott and a second by Matt Mintschenko the January minutes were approved.

Mark Miller Resignation:

Krista Farris announced that Advisory Board member Mark Miller had turned in his resignation due to health and personal reasons.

Minor League Baseball Stadium Discussion:

Krista Farris clarified information provided to her from Jeff Buettner, Council President, was that the Advisory Board was not required to take a vote on the stadium.

Updates on Transportation and Lease Information-

Brad Veach spoke to the Advisory Board with updated information he had received concerning the Transportation Management Plan and the Lease Matrix.

Transportation Management Plan:

He showed from a map he had received from Perry Eisenach, Public Utilities Director, the flow of traffic through the Park on pre-game/event and post-game/event days.

He clarified that closing down entrances pre-game and post-game identified a traffic problem. Park roads are wide enough to handle traffic. Speed impediments can be put out to help slow traffic. The Public would have to be educated of traffic pattern changes.

Farris made mention of the possibility of digital signage on game/event days.

The entrance of Daniel Morgan to Bridgeforth Drive along Cork Street would require widening of the road. At about a cost of \$120,000.00 for widening the road for a turn lane, curb and gutter, repainting and re-stripe verses \$510,000.00 for construction of a turn lane at Pleasant Valley Road and paving.

Other options like creating a one way traffic flow by the shelter areas are being explored.

Brad Veach will ask Perry Eisenach if the constant greens override the crosswalk push button pedestrian request for crossing the street.

Brad Veach reviewed the City Council Work Session document with the Board. City Council will review the document on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at the special Council Work Session. The document provided architectural sketches of the proposed stadium, a legislation update with regard to state sales tax collected from the stadium staying with the City, Taxable and Tax-Exempt Budgets Scenarios, Lease Update, Transportation Report and the Park Advisory Board Update.

Lease Update:

The Advisory Board reviewed the lease update and looked at all of the pieces of the matrix.

Brad Veach invited the Park Advisory Board members to attend the Special Council Work Session on Tuesday, March 6, 2012.

One question brought forward was the concern of the construction and staging of the equipment. Brad Veach responded that all types of equipment must be maintained inside of a chain link area.

Concern was also expressed that facilities affected should be replaced before inconveniences to citizens would arise.

Review of the Advisory Board's Recommendation Document and the Pros and Cons listing:

The Advisory Board's Recommendation Document and the Pros and Cons List were reviewed and final changes were made to both.

Motions:

A motion to approve the Park Advisory Board's Recommendation Document and the Pros and Cons list for the proposed stadium then forward them to City Council was made by Jules Bacha; seconded by Catherine Mattens; the motion was carried.

A motion that the Park Advisory Board does not endorse the proposal of the stadium in Jim Barnett Park was made by Catherine Mattens and seconded by Matt Mintschenko. Some discussion followed; John Elliott stated the Park Advisory Board was provided very incomplete information and they struggled and worked very hard to put together the pros and cons list and he felt they were very diplomatic with the documents they were presenting. Krista Farris stated she was not prepared to just say no. Kyle Homan stated he was not prepared to make a vote. Jules Bacha felt the stadium was very disruptive. Catherine Mattens stated representing more of what the public has discussed with her. Upon a tied vote of 3 opposed and 3 approved; and one member exiting the meeting early; the motion was not carried.

Committee Reports:**Park Utilization Plan Committee**

The Gift Pamphlet is almost finalized then it will go into the hands of the Park Foundation. There will be an expanded list of items with pricing online through the Park Foundation.

Catherine Mattens expressed a thank you to staff for a nice pamphlet.

The Master Development Plan is coming up soon and Krista Farris will have more information forthcoming. A special committee may be formed.

March Advisory Board Meeting Dates:

(Both held at the War Memorial Building)

Park Utilization Committee- Monday, March 26, 2012 @ 5:30pm

Monthly Advisory Board -Monday, March 26, 2012 @ 6:30pm

Park Foundation will be attending the Board meeting.

Board Comments:

Krista Farris thanked everyone for input and productivity on the ballpark discussions.

Kyle Homan stated the Park Foundation has a meeting on March 8, 2012 at 7:00pm at the Daily Grind.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss Krista Farris asked for a motion to adjourn; Kyle Homan made the motion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted; Jennifer Stotler, Park Administration Coordinator, March 19, 2012