



Minutes of Parks Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 15th, 2023
Council Chambers
5:00PM

Those in attendance were:

Judd Hart, Chair
Frank Baptist
Steve Brown
Evelyn Reed

Bill Donner
Tom Farmer, Mayor
Junior Rodemeyer
Jeff Hamm

The Parks Committee met on Tuesday, August 15th, 2023, in the Council Chambers and agreed to the following.

Chairman Hart moved on to the approval of the June 13th, 2023, minutes. Alderman Hamm made a motion to accept the minutes. Alderman Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to Ralph Bunche Amphitheater – Rodemeyer stated that their packet included a Conceptual Plan. Our budget for the project will be \$350,000. CD's with McClelland are at 90% and with your approval we would like to take this project out for bid. Rodemeyer did state that we would write the bid like the Mountain Bike project stating, "not to exceed \$350,000 including any change orders." Alderman Hamm made a motion to move forward with the bid. Chairman Hart clarified that this is the amount we are allocating for community parks so that we do not spend more at one park than another. Alderwoman Reed seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to Concessionaire Contract – Rodemeyer stated that our contract with Scott Hill will be completed at the end of the year. With your approval, we would like to move forward and put out an updated RFP for Concessions. In the RFP, we will increase our profit for this contract back to 15%. Rodemeyer stated that this number was dropped to 10.5% during Covid. Alderman Brown made a motion to move forward with an updated RFP. Alderwoman Reed seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Chairman Hart moved on to Public Meeting Information – The Department is seeking public feedback on capital improvement projects from the Parks Master Plan and 2040 Vision. Our first series of meetings will be centered around the new soccer complex. Rodemeyer advised that all meetings will be held from 6pm-7pm in the Council chambers. The three dates we have

scheduled are Thursday, September 7th, which will review conceptual design, Thursday, September 28th, which will review revised conceptual design, and Tuesday, October 17th, which will review final conceptual design.

Chairman Hart moved on to Other – Rodemeyer gave a couple of updates to the Parks. Repairs to the Lyle Park steps are 90% complete and the Mountain Bike Park construction is on schedule to begin early September. Rodemeyer also advised the Committee on recent events. The Department hosted Benton School District's "Back to School" breakfast, the "Back to School" Adaptive Luau Dance, the Family Glow Run, and the end of season track meet for the youth track program. Rodemeyer reported that it's been extremely hot during these events and the staff did a great job. Rodemeyer advised that River Center will be closing at 6pm on August 18th and 19th for Amplify.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.