

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
May 10, 2017
The Lodge at W.P. Jones Park

Present Maryanne McCrary, Sharon Paris, David Jones, Bob Bennewitz,
Luke Livingston, Mary Odum, Alexis Server, Jim Hall, Mark Carter

Absent Sherry McCann, Mike Humphreys

City Representative Kathy Marelle

Meeting Called to Order by David Jones, Chairman, at 7:05 PM.

Introductions made and positions confirmed:

Agenda

- 1. Church Street Park - Letters sent to all property owners requesting suggestions and recommendations**
 - 1. Board - to review the proposed updated plan**
 - 2. Visit the park site**
 - 3. Determine Course of Action**

Comments:

- Playground equipment failed safety inspection
- requests of concern if equipment is removed because they did not want it abandoned
- received feedback from mailed letters to residents/home owners residing near the park. the general consensus is that they are happy the city is going to maintain the area and that clean up at the end of the street is needed.
- basketball court to be re-surfaced this year
- Board member feedback:
 - increase traffic for use of park
 - Suggestions for park amenities- community garden, cameras, motion lights
 - buy in from the churches
 - challenges are isolated, small, not much use, how to allocate funding for park improvements, building a restroom is expensive and could pose a safety issue, safety is an issue overall

2. The Bridge at Rogers Bridge Park

- 1. May 15th River Park Symposium**
- 2. Challenges with Office of Environmental Services (GDOT)**

Comments:

- The preferred design for the bridge is the rebuilt replica with 14ft width bridge.
- Presentation at Symposium will show both options of the rebuilt bridges
- High priority is determining parking and the re-doing the restrooms at Rogers Bridge Park.

- Originally not deemed of historic value but now property on the Johns Creek side adjacent to the bridge may be considered historic which could impact the non historic status of the bridge

3. The “Max” Dedication (August/September)

Comments:

- Design scheduled to be completed on July 1st.
- David to call Missy to determine timeframe
- Invitations need to go out.
- Put building sign up after summer camp ends but before Fall Festival begins [end of August/September]
- Dedication Ceremony to be determined, would like to invite Duluth Orchestra

4. Summer Camp - 65% City Residents, several age groups closed for the summer.

Comments:

- staff shifts longer (7-8 hours per day) but less people, therefore, better communication without multiple shifts.

5. Matter from the Board

1. David Jones asked about a tee ball program update. Mark Carter said there are about 20-30 kids and that the focus is on fundamentals and is mainly instructional but batting towards the end. Other comments: Long Term - establishing city youth league? Could market through school e-mail blast or speaking at a PTA meeting.

2. Kickball - business promotions - 10% off when kickball shirt is worn. Still working with businesses - great way to connect the residents to the local businesses.

Motion to Adjourn meeting by Jim Hall at 8: 23 PM. Seconded by Sharon Paris.