

MINUTES
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
September 27, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Trace Kather called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Tom Bozack, Patt Brown, Holly Beyer, and Chair Trace Kather
Also present: PWDS Director Tony Baron, Deputy PWDS Director Jay Trost

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Commissioner Beyer to approve the minutes of May 24, 2018; motion seconded by Commissioner Bozack and Commission voted; the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES – Commissioner Beyer and Teresa Lawson of the Azalea Park Foundation (APF) provided a survey map of Azalea Park and a report of their past year activities with recommendations for the park. Tony Baron suggested the APF meet with him with their requests and concerns. Teresa also commented that the upper gardens were a good location for the recent Monarch Festival that was very successful.

REGULAR AGENDA – None

INFORMATION UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Park Master Plan Update** – Tony Baron advised that new PWDS Director Jay Trost will be taking over the update, which continues. Chair Kather wondered if an online forum for comments and suggestions had been considered to engage more people and Tony advised that he had had a survey workshop with park stakeholders earlier in the year, but thought an online survey might be possible. The Park Master Plan is being updated inhouse and no budget exists for public relations. Suggested that possibly a volunteer intern could be recruited to assist.
- B. Parks Tree Maintenance Program Status** – Tony Baron advised that the City has budgeted \$15,000 this fiscal year to hire an arborist and for tree maintenance and evaluation of the trees which is being scheduled. Jay Trost provided an update on the bandshell lawn area that is being resodded to elevate the grass area to the sidewalk level to avoid tripping hazards.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Commissioner Beyer advised that several insect pests have taken up in the rhodies and azaleas and APF has a fertilizer they would like to use to improve their condition that also helps SOD trees. Tony advised that anything they used would have to be approved as there is currently a plan by an azalea consultant, that does not involve pesticides, to cut their dead wood and mulch around them; a process that will take several years to see results. APF questioned if the plants maintained in the APF designated areas are the responsibility of AMF or the City and Tony advised in the past a distinction was not made.

Commissioner Beyer commented on the conditions of the womens changing room at the City swimming pool which was not well maintained the times she used the pool this year. Tony advised to contact staff when she notices such conditions or staff does not respond to complaints or issues. She also questioned if the pool season could be extended into September. Jay advised that pool employees are students who return to school in September and the costs to operate the pool compared with the possible revenue did not make it cost effective. Tony advised the Aquatic Center group is still meeting to try and build a Community Rec Center for year around use, finding funding is still a challenge.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting scheduled for October 18, 2018. With no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Trace Kather, Chair - approved at October 18, 2018 meeting