

ST. ALBANS CITY PARKS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 4, 2016 6:00 PM

RECREATION DEPARTMENT, 2ND FLOOR

Attendance: Tom Koldys, Stina Booth, Angie Sturm, Barbara Weinstein, Jeff Young

Absent: Joan McGinn also 1 open seat

Staff Members Present: Kelly Viens; Director of Recreation

Community Present: Jordan Weinstein

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Call to Order	Mr. Koldys 6:00 pm	
2. Review/discuss expectations for how we should publicly support/or not decisions made by the commission	Recently this commission came to a split vote concerning an Art Board Proposal from Jess Dunn. It is important that when acting as a member of the Parks Commission it is important to support the decisions of the group.	When a really disagreement is happening do more exploring and compromise to find a consensus, if it is there.
3. In light of new developments, discuss the possible relocation of instruments currently to be installed in the southeast corner of Taylor Park. (possible options outlined below) a) Set up a meeting with Admiral Hamm to hear and discuss concerns before making a decision. b) Choose a new location c) Install in the location that has	All members are referred to a handout of information that Mr. Koldys presented to the City Council. At that meeting the City Council reached a unanimous decision in agreeance with Park Commissions proposal of the location of the instruments. Since the Counsel meeting a member of the community (Admiral Hamm) has voiced concerns about the location and placements of the instruments, causing Council members to have a split decision about the placement.	It is decided that the best course of action is to organize a meeting with Admiral Warren Hamm. Providing him with greater understanding of what and where these instruments will be located and addressing and concerns that he may present. Mr. Koldys to reach out to Admiral Hamm and try to schedule a meeting that will work with as many of the members schedules as possible. Propose to meet in the Barlow St. space unless that is not convenient for Admiral Hamm.

<p>already been unanimously approved by the City Council.</p> <p>d) Other</p>	<p>Commission discussed what the options are moving forward. It is agreed that the current position is the best placement for these instruments.</p> <p>Ms. Sturm notifies that this is Sacred Public Property and not putting the instruments in this area sets a precedence that nothing should ever be put on that end of the Park.</p> <p>More discussion about how important it is to respect the Veterans and provide a greater understanding of what the instruments will bring to that end of the park.</p> <p>Also presented is the idea that the instrument installation could be dedicated to the kids of Veterans. Helping to tie them in with the monuments that are already present in this area.</p>	
<p>4. Info on the approved planning grant for Taylor Park</p>	<p>\$20,000 Planning Grant approved at the last meeting. Mr. Koldys proposed an open, warned meeting, possibly in Taylor Park and hopefully approved drafting a Grant letter addressing why it is important to have a plan for Taylor Park.</p> <p>If Admiral Hamm is to be invited it is also important to consider many other entities that will have valued input on the planning grant. Including but not limited to Gardener's Club, Farmer's Market, neighbors, Public Works, Rotary. It was agreed upon the Chairmen Mr. Koldys will moderate the meeting.</p>	<p>The Commission will write the letter of support.</p> <p>A larger meeting will be held at a later date to gather more ideas and information from the community.</p>

	<p>Mr. Young spoke with Chip and the contract for the grant will have to be bid out. Leaving it unsure who will be doing the work.</p> <p>More discussion and guidance surrounding what this letter will need to consist of. A large meeting is not necessary. It will need to be to Chip by Oct. 30th and will have more to it than just a couple of sentences.</p> <p>Mr. Young has voiced concerns, from previous experiences, of hired Planners that have trouble incorporating what the community wants and in a sense will “take over” the project and does what they feel best.</p>	
<p>5. Revisit request from Josh Lareau regarding a permaculture installation at Houghton Park</p>	<p>Mr. Koldys had a discussion with Chip about the future projects at Houghton Park. An under-ground sewage overflow system is set to be installed in the next five years.</p> <p>More discussion surrounding where and what size this garden will be. Original proposal from Josh was 50x30 and that is going to be too big. No space for that and it is also a really large responsibility.</p>	<p>This will not affect things that are to happen between now and then. Anything that is put in to the park before this project will be returned to the original state, if it is disturbed by the installation.</p> <p>Propose a smaller space to start and grow as it seems fit.</p> <p>Invite Josh to another meeting and gain more clarity. Ms. Viens to e-mail and contact Josh.</p>
<p>6. Introduce Skate Park discussion/Location and funding</p>	<p>RiseVT wants to donate \$12,000 to the City to create a Skate Park.</p> <p>There is a nice space on the outside of the City Pool, but it was determined to not be a good idea due to lack of supervision and open line of site. Ideas included City lot for</p>	<p>Much more brainstorming is needed to determine a good site for this. Supervision is a key factor of where this should be located.</p> <p>Seeking out information from any local groups that are focusing on teens may be a good resource for this project.</p>

	sale, upgrading and improving existing space, Hard’ack, Houghton Park, Fonda location.	Jeff Bean has been a longtime supporter of the skate parks
<p>7. Houghton Park</p> <p>a) Updates from September meeting?</p> <p>b) Picnic table/bench installation(s) plan</p>	<p>Parking problem seems to have been resolved. Horseshoe pits will be removed when football season ends, final removal of cottonwoods will also happen then.</p> <p>Barb moved to use the same tables that are present at City Pool. These are not feasible as they are plastic.</p> <p>The Public Works is generally open to building projects during the winter and the only charge is for materials. It seems that wood tables will not last as long. Concrete is not movable and longer lasting.</p>	<p>Ms. Sturm to reach out to her friend that works in concrete and seek out an estimate of pricing for a picnic table.</p>
<p>8. Other Business</p> <p>a) The Giant Chair in Taylor Park.</p> <p>b) The use and access of Taylor Park.</p> <p>c) Updates involving Taylor Park.</p>	<p>It is a great addition and attracts many people to the park.</p> <p>Discussion about Taylor Park history, how far it has come from what it was years ago. Also talk about the monuments and flag poles and ideas about moving some of these things.</p> <p>Contractors have finished removing all stone from around the fountain and it has been replaced with sod.</p> <p>The fountain is leaking internally and is in need of repair.</p> <p>There have been two portable bathrooms in the park all</p>	<p>It will remain in the park a little longer and will then be moved to storage and a decision will be made as to what the future will be of “The Chair”.</p> <p>The Installer will be coming to look at the damage.</p> <p>Put on the next agenda to discuss more about wooden</p>

<p>d) Updated concerning the election of a new Chairperson.</p> <p>-continuance of c)</p> <p>e) Water fountains.</p>	<p>summer. And they have gotten a lot of use.</p> <p>More clarification of electing a Chairperson. Original meeting minutes vs. ordinance that was signed.</p> <p>Barb presents question and concern of a random commemorative plaque that is present and feels that it should be removed.</p> <p>Discussion brought up concerning water fountains in Houghton Park and Barlow Park. The ease and affordability of installation.</p>	<p>slatted wall around them as a temporary solution to the bathroom problem.</p> <p>Ms. Viens to move to City Council to put this on the November agenda to discuss, clarify and finalize the process of electing a new Chairperson.</p> <p>No action was presented.</p> <p>Ms. Viens presents that Houghton Park will have water fountains installed in the spring. It is determined that though they would be appreciated at Barlow St. there is no need for one to be present.</p>
<p>9. Consider Approval of Minutes: 8/10/2016 (D&V)</p>	<p>Motioned by Mr. Young 2nd by Barb</p>	
<p>10. Adjourn</p>	<p>Ms. Viens presents that the Commission agreed to not let the meeting go over 90 minutes.</p> <p>Motioned by Mr. Young 2nd by Ms. Sturm</p>	