

MEETING MINUTES
ST. ALBANS CITY PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
Remote meeting via Zoom
6:00 PM Wednesday, November 18 , 2020

Board Members Present:

Members: Jamie Pinkham, Stina Booth, Bill Doig, Joanie McGinn and Kristen Poston

Board Members Absent: Angie Sturm

Public Present:

Staff Present: Andrew Gratton: Recreation Program Manager

AGENDA

1. **Call to order:** Meeting called to order at 6:03 pm

2. **Pocket Park Discussion:** Continued talk about some type of toddler playground/ park in the area of the north east corner of Maple and Lasalle streets. There is no sidewalk in this area, so any park are would be very close to the street. Lot seems to be too small for a toddler play area after you account for border and fence. Possibility of adding toddler play structures at Houghton for people looking for that? Joanie mentioned cleaning up the area and adding seating, benches, picnic tables and maybe some flower beds or plantings.

3. **Brochure Talk:** Continued talk about a brochure to help show off the parks that we have in St. Albans. This could serve to help give people an option of donating to our parks or just provide information to out of town visitors. Brochure to include.
 - **Donations/ memorials section**
 - o **Limited, semi strict guidance on memorials. Trees (2 options), benches (2 options)**
 - **Picture of our parks**
 - **Parks names, locations**
 - **History of Taylor Park**
 - **Contact info for recreation and city hall**
 - **Parks Mission Statement**

Should Hard'ack be included?

4. **Park Ideas and Discussion:** Kristen brought up that we should do a tour of the park together next time that the restrictions allow us to. This would give us all an up to date look at the parks. Jaime was curious if we had heard back from the SATLL about their use of the fields at Barlow and Houghton Parks. Andrew mentioned that the field at Barlow will likely remain, but he has not heard back about their use of the small field in the middle of Houghton Park. This field seems to have very little use or upkeep and would be a great spot for a pavilion/ shade structure. We will need to wait until the SATLL board meets to get any answers about their

continued use at Houghton.

Kristen would like for us to initiate public feedback via multiple forms of contact. Andrew mentioned putting it out via Facebook as well as other outlets. Public also are welcome to all meetings to put forth suggestions and feedback. Mention of adding passive seating options to Taylor Park as well as Houghton. Round boulders, the square blocks on main street are examples of passive seating.

Joanie made mention of fountain upkeep and who is responsible for keeping tabs on the fountain's status. Does the parks commission need to make recommendations to the City about upkeep? Joanie also recommended that we as for more lighting in Taylor Park that matches the streetscape. This is something that was a part of the Taylor Park Master plan. Cost of these lights?

Mention of safety barriers on the south east corner of Taylor Park to protect park goers and other from a "runaway" car or truck.

Mention of the upkeep on the bulletin board and the gazebo. Do they need to be painted again? Andrew will work to get information/ prices on passive seating, lights and safety barriers to present to City Council before the next budget is voted on.

5. **Approval of Minutes: September and October** – Andrew made a motion to pass the minutes as presented. Passed unanimously.

6. **Adjourn:** Joanie made a motion to adjourn at 7:24 pm unanimously passed.