PARK BOARD MEETING
Foster Community Center
January 8, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Veronica Gracia-Wing, Zoe Ahlstrom, Michael Ruddock, Mike Dombrowski, Kimberly Whitfield, Rick Kibbey, Sean Hammond

MEMBERS ABSENT: Erika Poland

OTHERS PRESENT: Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation Director; Kellie Brown, Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: 6:35 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: M. Dombrowski asked to add the Parks website to the agenda; V. Gracia-Wing added under new business.

BOARD MEETING MINTUES: S. Hammond moved to approve the December 11, 2019 minutes as submitted, seconded by Z. Ahlstrom. 6 yeas; 0 nays

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

2019 Annual Report

M. Ruddock stated he and M. Dombrowski worked on the report during December and they pulled out the headline issues from a year of minutes and update reports.

V. Gracia-Wing had provided mark-ups to the document.

B. Kaschinske clarified under CIP improvements $45,000 is a portion of the total needed for the Foster Park improvements. Amounts will be phased in and the project will not be done right away.

V. Gracia-Wing stated the board has the opportunity to approve with the noted edits or wait for the edits to be made and approve the final report in February.

S. Hammond would like to wait until February.

Website

M. Dombrowski stated his wife and a friend both tried to sign up online and struggled with the website which is a very non-seamless process and it took them multiple times to get through. His concern is if these two computer literate individuals struggled, user experience must be frustrating for everyone.

S. Hammond stated his neighborhood is at Westside for the concession and the teams that play find it difficult to locate schedules online.

B. Kaschinske stated he would look into it.
OLD BUSINESS

V. Gracia-Wing provided an agenda for the working session meeting on January 11 for the 5-year Master Plan and stated the agenda is open to feedback.

Lansing Park Board
2020-2025 Master Plan Working Session
Saturday, Jan. 11, 2020
Foster Community Center
2 to 5 p.m.

I. WELCOME: ICEBREAKER & GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER (2:2:15 p.m.)

A. DISCUSSION: Creating community through people, parks and programs.

II. PRIORITIES & STRATEGIC VISION ACTIVITIES (2:15-3 p.m.)

A. PRE-MEETING ACTION: Reflect on the question “What do you see looking ahead five years?”

Questions to think about and come prepared to share and discuss:
- What’s the IMPACT of LPR’s/LPR Board’s work?
- Whose LIVES have been changed?
- What SPACES and PLACES have changed?
- What RESULTS has LPR/LPR Board achieved?
- How has LPR/LPR’s Board GROWN?
- What else would you CHANGE or ADD?

B. DISCUSSION: What were the high-level take-aways from your reflection?

C. ACTIVITY: What’s a 10?/Current State and Driving Forces

What does a 10 look like in the following areas?
- Programs/projects
- Park assets/infrastructure
- Budget/CIP
- Maintenance/facility management
- Public engagement/relationships/partnerships
- Administrative and governing roles
- Master planning process/goals and objectives
- Master planning outcome

What score would you currently give the following areas? Explore forces driving you toward a 10, and forces restraining you from being a 10.
- Programs/projects
- Park assets/infrastructure
- Budget/CIP
- Maintenance/facility management
- Public engagement/relationships/partnerships
- Administrative and governing roles
- Master planning process/goals and objectives
- Master planning outcome
III. REVIEW OF PRIOR PLAN & ACCOMPLISHMENTS (3-3:15 p.m.)

A. REVIEW & DISCUSSION: What have we learned?

What was a success? What could be improved upon?

- 2015-2020 Master Plan
- 2015-2020 Goals and Objectives Report
- 2015-2020 Survey Results
- 2019 Accomplishments

IV. FINDING INSPIRATION (3:15-3:30)

A. PRE-MEETING ACTION: Each Board member explore other comparable/inspiring municipalities and be prepared to discuss one take-away for Lansing. (Ideas: Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Sterling Heights, Columbus, Madison, etc.)

B. DISCUSSION: What are those cities doing that Lansing should be? What opportunities are there? What should we avoid?

V. PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER/BREAK (3:30-3:45)

A. ACTIVITY/DISCUSSION: What themes or priorities do we notice? How do we feel about them? What action steps should they translate to?

VI. PUBLIC MEETING PLANNING (3:45-4:20)

A. REVIEW: 2020-2025 Master Plan Process Recommendation

B. DISCUSSION: Goal-setting for and coordination of public meetings.
   - What style of meeting do we think will produce the most powerful results?
   - Where do we recommend the meetings are held?
   - How do we recommend outreach occur?
   - How do we account for location/topic bias?

C. DETERMINE: Preliminary recommendations, additional information needed or next steps for:
   - Goal:
   - Format:
   - Locations:
   - Outreach:

VII. SURVEY EXPLORATION (4:20-4:50)

A. DISCUSSION: What are we asking and why are we asking it?
   - How is the survey different than the meetings?
   - What opportunities are there for visioning, education and higher response rates?
   - What’s our response rate goal?
She requested members to look at section two and section four prior to the meeting.

R. Kibbey recommended looking at other city models that spur development and he would appreciate a thought paper from staff.

V. Gracia-Wing referred Kibbey to item four on the agenda, which relates to this topic.

R. Kibbey stated focus should be on the survey and user groups for feedback.

S. Hammond inquired if there is a list of cohort cities.
B. Kaschinske stated should look at cities with 100,000 to 150,000 population such as Madison and Columbus, which are capital cities both with universities.

V. Gracia-Wing inquired about looking nationally.

B. Kaschinske referenced the Illinois parks system.

V. Gracia-Wing mentioned it may be helpful to bring a laptop or I-pad.

**UPDATES**

B. Kaschinske stated the ice rink is set, however weather is not favorable at this time for ice. Closing will take place on the Willard Avenue property this Friday, which will add land to Mt. Hope Cemetery and Scott Woods.

R. Kibbey inquired about the status on the Ingham County grants.

B. Kaschinske stated Lansing’s projects all received recommendation from County Park Commission.

M. Ruddock inquired if a system is an option for freezing the rink. B. Kaschinske stated no, due to the cost.

**Moores Park Pool Committee**

V. Gracia-Wing stated after the public meeting a committee was formed and they are working through the process. They have drafted preliminary goals and what the intent of the committee should look like. There is a meeting with Mayor on Friday regarding the next steps. The committee would like to launch a Facebook page and realize fundraising will be the key. A grant was submitted to the National Park System Fund.

Kibbey commented three items are to be considered; historic preservation, neighborhood involvement and historic properties we have been putting money into without full use potential.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

V. Gracia-Wing had a Facebook post from Jim McClurken stating he was almost hit in Frances Park by two cars that were drag racing in the park.

B. Kaschinske stated there are three entrances and Frances is the only park we shut off during the season to vehicle traffic.

S. Hammond stated he would like discuss Frances Park at the February meeting and the drive that goes through the park.

**REMARKS**

M. Ruddock stated the CIP process is only two months away and asked for an update at the February meeting.

B. Kaschinske will have a list of projects, not sure if it will be next month, but he is hearing from the Board they would like to start on the process next month.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted: Kellie Brown, Park Board Secretary
Approved February 12, 2020