MINUTES

Park, Arts and Culture Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 18, 2014
5:00-6:15 PM
Room 12, City Hall

Participants

Committee Members: Councilor Kurt Wright, Ward 4 (KW)
Councilor Vince Brennan, Ward 3 (VB)
Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6 (KP) (not present)

Staff: Jesse Bridges, Director of Parks & Recreation, DPR (JB)
Jen Francis, Parks Planner, DPR (JF)
Peter Owens, Director, CEDO (NW)
Kirsten Merriman Shapiro, Special Projects Manager, CEDO (KMS)
Rubi Simon, Library (BS)

Others: None

1) Approval of agenda & draft minutes from 1/9/14 & 3/25/14
- Meeting came to order at 5:07 PM
- Motion to approve agenda and minutes with the stipulation that Vince was the single person
  (Brennan/Wright) - Approved

2) Public Forum
- No members of the public present

3) WAN Update (Shapiro)
- Phase 2 construction slated to begin this summer; bids due Friday and shared with Council
  next Monday
- (VB) What is construction happening north of their currently? (JB) Oil bollard removal.
- (VB) Can we get signage up for the WAN project? (KS) That is the plan.
  (JB) Signage is posted for the oil bollard removal project at Perkins Pier.
- (KW) WAN is a separate project from PIAP?
  (VB) More clarity and education for public would be helpful amidst so many moving pieces,
funding sources and interconnection... to support community questions. Reference to Seven Days article.

- (JF) Potential signage language could be a web reference: “For more information on this and other city projects visit this website.” Common project website connection.

4) PIAP Update (Shapiro)
   - Sailing Center
     o MOU recently approved
     o Amendment to existing lease will be shared with BOF & CC next week
   - New Moran
     o Weekly meetings ongoing
     o New Moran incorporated in May
     o Recently received their first six-figure donation in support of their capital campaign
     o August, PACC review of draft MOU with New Moran
   - Marina
     o Regular meetings ongoing
   - Waterfront Park
     o Bonding package recently submitted
     o Construction anticipated for this fall
   - ECHO
     o Developing draft MOU for the fall

5) Parks Master Plan Draft Review (Bridges)
   - PMP draft was email to PACC last month
   - Draft components
     o 1 – Executive summary
     o 2 – Full report (process, survey and findings)
     o 3 – Strategic action plan that will be revisited every three years
   - Currently gathering community input on draft with visits to NPAs
   - Timeframe
     o August 5, Parks Commission review of PMP draft
     o August, PACC review of PMP draft
     o September, PRC approval of final draft
     o September, PACC approval final draft
     o September, adoption of final draft by Council
   - (KW) Would you like PACC to review and approve this prior to going to Council in September?
     (JB) Yes, that would be helpful.
   - (KW) Are there any issues in reviewing the draft that we should be aware of?
     (JB) Yes, we have more courts than we can support, particularly given the high cost of maintenance and poorly sited courts (Appletree, Schmanska)
     o Schmanska now a hot spot for cane ball
   - (VB) There were several deficiencies called out by the PMP – do you see the Parks Foundation as a resource to support these deficiencies?
     (JB) Yes, absolutely. Deficiencies exist in indoor recreation space, swimming pool... and partnership opportunities (Roosevelt Park is a great example).
   - (JB) Understand that just because we have a surplus of any given amenity does not mean it is a negative or that it should be eliminated (example of community gardens).
   - (JB) Review the draft through the lens of the community’s user experience.
6) VTrans Bike/Ped Program Grant Application Candidates (Francis/Bridges)
   - Preparing a grant application package for the Bike Path Rehabilitation project design & construction from the north end of the Urban Reserve to North Beach
   - Application due June 27
   - This meeting serves as the public notice and forum for the application
   - (VB) Could blue security lights be part of this application?
   - (JB) That is a broader conversation outside of this grant proposal and is dependent on future east/west connections that are currently in development.

7) Parks Project Update (Francis/Bridges)
   - Working to wrap up the FY15 project list; do not anticipate many (if any) FY14 projects rolling over into FY15
   - (VB) Roosevelt Park improvements to the basketball court are great to see; are storage building improvements on track? Soccer program starting in the fall...
   - (JB) On track and will be ready for soccer.
   - (JB) Press event and grand re-opening next week, 3pm, June 25.
   - (VB) Would be nice to see full-sized windows...
   - (JB) We explored that option but it was not possible given security issues with the site.

8) Other items
   - (KW) Doreen Kraft has offered to take PACC on a tour of the city’s art facilities.
   - (RS) In an RFP process for strategic planning/assessment consultant for Fletcher Free
     - 3-6 month process with community engagement
     - Will provide full overview and assessment of library needs and deficiencies
     - Intensive data collection and national comparison analysis
   - (RS) Library facility needs are significant
     - HVAC system failure; assessment underway
     - Three separate pipe bursts
     - Chiller broken and AC down
     - Leaking during rain events
   - (RS) Library security issues; working with BPD
   - (VB) Have there been any conversations for future plans? Building looks pretty warn. Is it worth spending money on band-aid fixes rather than longer-term visioning?
   - (JB) Parks staff spends most of their time in the basement of Memorial and the basement of Fletcher... comprehensive building analysis is underway as part of the 10-year capital planning effort.
     - Money in this year’s budget for preventative maintenance at Fletcher Free.
     - Martha Keenan hired to support CIP process implementation.
   - (RS) We are in an assessment phase – understanding what the issues are.

   • **August, will bring consultant selection to PACC**
9) Confirmation of next meeting date
   • No July meeting
   • Jen will send out Doodle poll to schedule August meeting after August 5.

10) Adjournment
    • Meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM