



City Council Worksession

Meeting Minutes – Planning Conference Room – 1st Floor

April 12, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

5:02 PM

Mayor Stephen D. Murray III

Members of Council in attendance - Phil Cromer, Neil Lipsitz, Mike McFee, Mitch Mitchell, and Mayor Murray.

II. EMPLOYEE NEW HIRE RECOGNITION

A. Fire Department - Tim Ogden, Fire Chief

Tim Ogden, Fire Chief, introduced Patrick Moses and Kenny Torres.

III. PRESENTATION

A. Southside Park Consensus Master Plan.

Kyle Theodore and Trey Griffin with Wood and Partners reported that they had been working with the Southside Park Steering Committee since the middle of March to create a conceptual plan for the park. The work that they did, mirrors the effort from the Southside Park Task Force. They went over all the proposed amenities for the park and its layout. Included were playgrounds, 9-hole disc golf course, refurbished dog park areas, and a multi-use festival lawn.

A copy of the diagram is attached to the end of these minutes.

Councilman Mitchell was concerned about the Community Garden being so close to the main entrance and about the parking being on the other side of the entranceway. He also wants to see the park have more active areas, like a basketball court. Adding this would make the park more inclusive.

Councilman Lipsitz stated that they were trying to keep this more of a passive park.

Mayor Murray mentioned the Community Gardens and that while he likes the sustainability of people growing their own food, they typically work best in urban areas. There seems to be great enthusiasm at the beginning, but then people lose interest and the gardens become nothing but an area of weeds. From a placement standpoint, he feels it might need to be relocated.

Bill Prokop, City Manager, stated he would like to see the line disappear between county and city owned property between the two parks. We have needs for basketball, pickleball and have this large square piece of property that can be used for these types of activities. We have a real opportunity to turn this area into a real community park and does not want to see this opportunity go by.

Linda Roper, Downtown Operations and Community Services Director, said that the consensus of the Southside Park Task Force was that the more active courts, like basketball, would be better suited to be built near the existing tennis courts.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. MRB Group progress update - Community and Economic Development Department.

Bill Prokop, City Manager, introduced Rico Giani with the MRB Group and stated he is our advisor and technical consultant in the Community and Economic Development Department. Mr. Giani talked about his background and what his responsibilities are while we look for a new Director.

B. Designated Marketing Organization (DMO) update.

Robb Wells, President, and CEO of the Greater Beaufort - Port Royal Convention and Visitors Bureau, reported that they have been focused on bringing small market meeting and conferences to the area. Over the next few months there are seven different events taking place that includes the US Croquet Associations Southeast Regional Championship.

Mr. Wells reported that the first quarter was fairly strong compared to 2021. He sees good movement moving forward. He believes that the numbers for 2022 will be very similar to 2021. Demand for hotels are high, and that means the average daily rates will remain high. The occupancy rate for the first quarter was 59.1%. Earned Media was roughly \$2.2 million.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Cromer made a motion to go into Executive Session and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

A. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (2) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Discussion regarding pending contracts.

B. Pursuant to Title 30, Chapter 4, Section (70) (a) (4) of the South Carolina Code of Law: Discussion on investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.

Councilman Cromer made a motion to come out of Executive Session and seconded by Councilman Lipsitz.

No actions from Executive Session.

VI. ADJOURN

7:15 PM

Disclaimer: This document is a summary. All City Council Worksession and Regular Meetings are recorded. Live stream can be found on the City's website at www.cityofbeaufort.org (Agenda section). Any questions, please contact the City Clerk, Traci Guldner at 843-525-7024 or by email at tguldner@cityofbeaufort.org.



Swing Bench



Bench



Picnic Table



Trash Receptacle



Playground and Safety Surface



Dog Park Entry



K9 Grass (Artificial Turf)



LEGEND

- 1 WOODLAND PLAYGROUND**
 - 2-5 Year Old Play
 - 5-12 Year Old Play
 - Accessible Features
 - Picnic Tables & Benches
- 2 EVENT PAVILION**
 - Restrooms & Storage
 - 6 Picnic Table Capacity
 - Service Playground & Festival Lawn
- 3 PLAYGROUND & FESTIVAL LAWN PARKING**
 - 145 Parking Spaces
- 4 CONTROLLED ENTRY ACCESS**
- 5 COMMUNITY GARDEN**
 - Enclosed Entry with Fencing
 - Maintenance Shed with Storage
 - Irrigation
- 6 FITNESS NODE**
 - Stations Mixed with Outdoor Fitness Equipment
- 7 ENHANCED STREETSCAPE**
 - On-Street Parking
 - Sidewalks
 - Canopy Trees
- 8 MULTIPURPOSE FESTIVAL LAWN**
 - Re-Grade for proper drainage
 - Provide Festival Opportunities
 - Provide Free Play Recreation
 - Sized for (2) Soccer Fields (225'x360')
- 9 RENOVATED RESTROOMS**
- 10 IMPROVED PARKING FOR DOG PARK, FESTIVAL LAWN & DISC GOLF COURSE**
 - 2 115 Parking Spaces
- 11 RENOVATED DOG PARK**
 - Large and Small Dog Areas
 - New Fences Enclosures
 - New Cannon Entry Corral with Leash Hooks
 - New Pet Fountain with Misting Sprays
 - Artificial (K-9) Turf
 - Potential Agility Course
- 12 POTENTIAL SIDEWALK CONNECTION TO WADDELL ROAD**
- 13 CREATED WETLAND HABITAT AND DRAINAGE AREAS**
 - Expand Low Areas to Create Wetland Habitat and Improve Site Drainage Storage
 - Utilize Cut for Fill On-Site to Re-Grade Festival Lawn
- 14 WETLAND OVERLOOK**
- 15 DISC GOLF COURSE (9 HOLES)**
- 16 DISC GOLF TRAILHEAD**
- 17 MEDIUM PICNIC PAVILION (4 TABLE CAPACITY)**
- 18 SMALL PICNIC PAVILION (2 TABLE CAPACITY)**



WOOD*PARTNERS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

SOUTHSIDE PARK CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN
2022



