

Sanford Parks Advisory Committee
Depot Park
106 Charlotte Ave, Sanford NC
November 21, 2022
Meeting Minutes

The following people were present

Bob Bridwell
Chad Spivey
Joni Martin
John Dean
Mark Lyczkowski
Carson Wilson

Non-Voting Attendees

Nick Fortune
Kelli Ladaute
Charles Taylor

Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm by Chad Spivey.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes from last meeting by Joni Martin, unanimously approved by the committee.

New Member Introduction

Welcome new committee member, Carson Wilson. Carson is from Sanford and moved back into the area about 5 years ago. He works with a development company based in Apex, that deals with real-estate development. Carson stated that he looks forward to bringing his experiences to the committee and thanked other committee members for keeping him in mind for the position.

Administrators Report

Nick Fortune began the Administrators report by giving an update on the fountain at Depot. The new tank has been installed and now just working on regulating the chemicals. Hopefully the fountain will be back up and running very soon. Christmas decorating has begun for Downtown Streetscape and Depot Park. Employees are adding finishing touches, and everything should be done by December 4th. Mark Lyczkowski suggested that next time Christmas lights are purchased for downtown that maybe it could be more of a "Small Town Christmas" feel instead of just sterile snowflakes. Kelli Ladaute stated that the replacement of the snowflakes and large Christmas lights in general is very expensive. Kelli also stated that there has been discussion with Nick about trying to bring back the draped decoration across Steele Street like in the past but again, it is very costly.

Nick stated that there is now an open vacancy for a Parks Attendant after an employee left this month. The position has been posted and hopefully it will be filled soon for the winter season.

A new weather station has been installed at Kiwanis Park at the splash pad building. The weather station monitors for lightning in the area and sends out alerts via verbal warnings, and a light strobe to park goers. The alerts are announced in both English and Spanish. Nick stated that this is a good addition for safety at the park.

Old Business

Nick gave an update on the Parks Master Plan stating that the fees have been written out. Additional funds will need to be secured to complete some of the projects. There is an intention to apply for a PARTF grant again this year. Mark Lyczkowski asked if the Greenway extension “medical mile” would be on the agenda for this time? Nick stated there is still an issue with the easement and this was one of the reasons for denial of PARTF grant last year. Mark stated that he could help with trying to get an easement. Discussion amongst the committee regarding easement challenges and intentions. Mark questioned why McAdams was going to be paid to do a lot of what Lee County GIS could accomplish. Mark stated that he thought that the price McAdams has presented is very pricey. John Dean stated he was disappointed there was no identifying outcomes for funding sources listed in McAdams proposal.

New Business

Recently City Council has decided to compensate board and commission members. Paperwork was distributed to members to be set up for payment through the City of Sanford payroll. This is optional and if members would like to decline, they must also fill out a paper stating this. Paperwork must be submitted before next meeting.

Next Meeting

Chad asked that by next meeting that Mark have an update for easement issue.

Comments

John wanted to bring a program to the attention of the committee from the NC Department of Commerce which is focused on providing technical assistance for an outdoor recreational plan. This would not be a grant, but technical assistance. He asked the committee to keep this program on their radar.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 4:54pm by Chad Spivey. Unanimously approved by committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

 1/23/2023
Chad Spivey, Chairman

Attest: 
Nick Fortune, Clerk

Alyson Cochran, Vice Chairman