



PARK BOARD MINUTES
April 6, 2021

The Park Board met virtually on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 12:30 p.m. using GoToMeeting online and teleconference capabilities.

PRESENT: Lorelei Gibson, Mary Pat Williams, Britton Norden, Susan Pierson, Louise Allen, Mary Ann Powell, Sally Ott

ALSO PRESENT: Andy Weed; City Councilmember; Dave Heinen, Heinen Landscape and Irrigation; Jesse Kirk, City Arborist; Jesse Kirk, City Arborist; Justin Carroll, Assistant City Administrator; and Jennifer Lee, Assistant City Administrator

At 12:34 p.m. Ms. Gibson called the meeting to order.

Approval of the March 2, 2021 Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously.

MAINTENANCE REPORTS

Mr. Heinen noted that his report was included in the Park Board packet. Ms. Ott inquired about an insect causing damage to her “Green Gem” boxwood, Mr. Heinen thought it could possibly be boxwood leaf miner, but suggested sending in a sample to verify.

Mr. Kirk noted that in addition to what’s included in the provided arborist report; Arbor Day celebrations will be held May 10th or June 14th immediately prior to the City Council meeting. Right now the plan is to plant an ornamental fringe tree south of the Christmas tree at City Hall. Also the added daffodil beds in Peetwood and Hiawassee Park are looking fantastic right now, go check them out. And there is a hen mallard nesting in one of the flower pots on the wooden bridge.

TEAM REPORTS

MHHC

Ms. Norden reported that her, Ms. Gibson and Ms. Wagstaff completed a drive around a week or so ago. Hopefully next week they’ll walk and take more detailed notes. Ms. Gibson asked that they organize the projects into their long term plans. Ms. Norden stated that they had

looked at statuary in storage and picked out a piece for Pembroke Ct. They have also discussed the memorial bench but she's unsure where they stand on Colonial Ct. Hopefully Ms. Orr can provide more information.

TRHA

Ms. Williams reported that her and TRHA Park Board members, Ms. Allen, Ms. Devins met last Wednesday to discuss future culvert ideas. The plan is to remove the viburnum in front of the wall and replace with rose bushes. Possibly keep some viburnum bushes towards the dog pot and possibly add some azaleas to the slope. All of which will be added on City property, so we will likely need to re-flag the area to ensure we're not planting outside of this area. There are two stumps in this area that should be ground. Mr. Kirk stated that because of the slope it's unlikely that we'll be able to get a stump grinder to them but they may be removed with an excavator if a retaining wall is going in or hand dug. TRHA board members will do a more formal drive around when Ms. Devins returns to town.

Also noted:

- The island sweetgum needs pruned.
- The lilac tulips on Overhill are very sparse compared to the coral ones.
- Dead boxwood or yews at Overhill and 70th Terr.
- Concrete dumped at the southeast corner of 69th and Belinder Ave.

Ms. Allen wanted to report on the March 11th meeting regarding Eisenhower Pond. As of now it doesn't sound like there will be a sidewalk going along the north side of Tomahawk Rd. Painting the culverts a darker color to disguise them in the view from the 63rd St. and Ensley Ln. intersection was discussed as well as moving the sedges from the corner of the pond near the intersection to the shallow shoreline near the culvert. The plan is to retain the headwall over the culverts but remove the viburnums that obscure the view out over the pond. Replant with something that will stay out of this view shed and can tolerate the salt from Tomahawk, possibly mini-shrub roses.

Mr. Heinen's proposal for the west side shoreline was \$11,545 to plant the water plants and the shoreline 1' back from the water. This planting will help control erosion while continuing to deter the geese. Ms. Allen noted that she would like to see more color. Mr. Heinen stated it's likely the transplanted sedges won't grow as well in the south corner of the pond due to less sunlight. Ms. Gibson asked which plant species are best behaved currently and noted that she is nervous about the quantities and how well they'll behave. Mr. Heinen stated that some species will always be more competitive than others and this can't be looked at as a one and done plan. It's likely in five or so years that modifications will be necessary. However, the best time to plant is now through mid-summer. Ms. Allen requested that another meeting be set up with landscape architect Robert Whitman, Mr. Kirk said he will contact him about his availability April 21st-23rd.

Discussion moved towards how this project will be paid for. Ms. Allen made known that Councilman Bruning is a strong liaison to the TRHA Board and she will get with him about finances. The culvert side will need a terrace before it can be planted, maybe the rest can come from PB finances. Ms. Allen then questioned how much we have to work with on the west side. Ms. Lee responded that the budget is in the packet but Mr. Heinen has provided a bid of \$7,100

to bore the new irrigation to the area. Remaining Park Board budget is \$6300, which is up to the board to decide how to spend. Everything else has been spent on bulbs, annuals, and plans. It was then noted that Mr. Heinen's bid for the west shore planting includes plant material as well as labor and he stated that it would be unnecessary to lower the water to plant. Ms. Allen then inquired if they should plan on one third of the \$6300 for planting the west side and how much of it will grow back without a replanting effort. Mr. Heinen responded in a grave voice, "It will be weeds." Removal and replacing is one project, it's difficult to eliminate individual parts. Ms. Allen then requested we hold off on transplanting the sedges, to which Mr. Heinen responded they'll be more difficult to transplant once they're grown up. Ms. Williams asked if we can start clearing the culvert area in preparation for irrigation. Ms. Lee asked if a meeting had been set up with the TRHA Board and felt that we could start after that. Ms. Gibson asked about the fire to which Ms. Lee responded it was caused by the wind causing the lines to arc creating a spark that lit the grasses. The associated restoration and repair cost is unknown currently but will know more once we get the estimate from the electrician.

IHHA

Ms. Ott and Ms. Powell completed their drive around last week, bulbs looked nice. The corner plantings at 64th St. and Mission Rd. need some work, they're looking overgrown. Ms. Ott said she would work to get their drive around notes distributed to the group.

Discussion moved to the Wenonga Rd./ Wenonga Terr. Plans. Ms. Powell stated that the group had unanimously been in favor of option #4 with a few changes, these include:

- Scrap pair of columnar trees for three small ornamental trees.
- Sculpture in middle of wall is too much. Create a sitting wall instead.
- Probably no plantings right in front of wall.

There was discussion regarding the height of the wall but once the hump of mulch is removed it is probably appropriate.

Ms. Powell motioned to approve plan option #4, no opposed, motion passed.

Ms. Powell suggested we hold off on adding irrigation to additional islands until we get bids to install the plan. Ms. Lee said we could ask for a price range or a prioritization of plants and move forward from there. Ms. Pierson said we need a general cost estimate to take to the homes association to get them on board. Ms. Gibson said she could get a price for the urns but will still need a bid on the wall. Ms. Lee suggested leveling the site, verifying wall height then soliciting bids. Ms. Gibson said that the stone work and landscaping will be separate contracts so that we can move forward with construction prior to settling on specific plants.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Gibson said the screening of the Indian Hills Country Club parking lots is still in the works. Waiting on plans from their landscape architect.

Ms. Pierson asked about the cleaning of the stonework and statues throughout the City. Ms. Lee said we're repairing them at the City's cost.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Gibson, hopefully we'll be able to meet in person for our next Park Board meeting.

The next Park Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 4th, 2021 at 12:30 pm. This will be a virtual meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

_____/s/ Jesse Kirk
Jesse Kirk
Arborist/Parks Coordinator