



CANDLER PARK CONSERVANCY

Minutes of the August 21, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Rush Center

Board Chair Dan Hanlon called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Present were Board members Awbrey, Jones, Lenhart, Skach, Smith, Welsh, Wetzels, White, and Wolf. Mr. Klehr arrived subsequently. Members Edelstein, Funderburke, and Stout had previously reported conflicts. There were no prior minutes available for review.¹

Governance Committee

Mr. Lenhart reported that the pending amendments previously approved by the Board had received appropriate public notice and were now eligible for formal adoption. The motion was approved without objection; Mr. White did not vote.

There was a brief discussion about the importance and best process for adding effective new Board members. Mr. Lenhart observed that any and every board member can nominate and vet proposed new members and should be wary of adding 'only like-minded individuals' and resist a nominating process confined to a small number of people. Ms. Welsh noted that the strategic plan mentioned strengthening and broadening the skill set of members and agreed that a more formal approach is needed. Mr. White suggested an evaluation of the current board's strengths and gaps and a more deliberate and conscious approach to identifying attributes that the Board considers important.

The Governance Committee will continue the discussion of this topic.

Communications, Fundraising, & Membership Committee

Mr. Wetzels handed out a written report; a copy is appended to and submitted as part of the minutes.²

He noted that the race permit is pending and no difficulties with its approval are anticipated. **All Board members are expected to volunteer in support of the race and/or for the Fall Fest booth on that first weekend in October; he will make an online sign-up sheet available shortly..** Race sponsors now include Solstice Yoga, Piedmont Health, and Keller Knapp.

Finance Committee:

Treasurer Elliott Jones reported that CPC's existing bills are current and that we have about \$45,000 in the bank, slightly less when existing commitments are factored in.

Projects Committee

¹ Mr. White took the minutes in the Secretary's absence.

A copy of Perry Smith's report submitted prior to the meeting is appended to and made part of these minutes.³

Mr. Hanlon reported that a new cost estimate for the field has been developed by another contractor, one that "...for a number of reasons, has costs that appear to be much lower than first projected." One reason is that this contractor could serve as GC and do much of the work himself.' Totals 25-30% lower than the previous estimates are possible.

Mr. Hanlon had therefore sought support from the Projects Committee for submitting to Park Pride notice of intent to provide a grant application to that group this fall. (The deadline for doing so fell between the Planning and Board meetings.) The Planning Committee discussed this at length. Specifically noting that the submission of such a letter was in no respect a decision by the Committee or Board to further support such an application, the Projects Committee agreed and Mr. Hanlon submitted the letter by the deadline. Mr Hanlon noted that this merely keeps the door open for further action with Park Pride and does not commit CPC to any further act in this regard.

Assuming this process moves along, Mr. Hanlon will reconvene the original active lawn group to examine this new proposal. **Mr White asked and Mr. Hanlon agreed to provide a copy of the new estimate to the Board.**

Mr. White noted that the visit of the CPC Planning Committee to Perkins+Will's office to review playground design had been postponed due to an injury to Micah Lipscomb, but that the P+W staff would be at the Candler Park playground pavilion for live community input on that topic on September 8th from 4:30 to 6 PM. Confirmation of the event occurred after the Messenger deadline. **Mr. White will install yard signage in and around the park, field, school, and playground in the days preceding the event and reserve First E for foul weather backup Mr. Wetzel will send the usual electronic notifications to members and post the event on our website.** All Board Members are urged to provide input and thank P+W for their continuing work and enthusiasm.

New Business:

Ms. Welsh reported that she was in the process of examining generic job descriptions for a potential new CPC Executive Director position, with the expectation of approaching potential funders to request financial assistance for an initial period of a year or more. The concept is that a new ED would use the time provided by that process to find further funding and new grants to support of a significant park project. Ms. Welsh's **expectation is to have a draft of that description for the Board to examine at its September meeting.**

Mr. Hanlon adjourned the meeting at 8:07 EDT.

² **CPC Communications, Fundraising, and Membership Committee**

No meeting in July or August – Next Meeting Tuesday, September 3 2019

AGENDA

Events

- Fall Fest

- 5K Permit data gathering complete, submitting on Friday to MOSE
- Booth Volunteers

Communications

- Send email to CPC membership soliciting participation in Project & Communication Committees
- Make sure 5K run notice goes into Messenger
- TODO Post Previous Agenda

Fundraising/Membership

- Membership Marketing definition, segmentation & messaging
- Fall Fest is the 2nd largest fundraiser each year
 - Planning at the next membership meeting in September
 - Will need full board participation to staff the event 12-6 Sat & Sun

Open Discussion

- Getting back “into gear” on Mem,Con,Fun as a team

³ **Environment, Projects and Programming Committee – Minutes of 8.14.2019 Meeting**

Present: Kim Awbrey, John Wolfe, Jack White, Perry Smith, John Skach, Dan Hanlon

Not Present: Elliott Jones, Doug Wetzal, Amy Stout

Organizational Note: The Environment, Projects and Programming Committee did not meet in July 2019.

Continuing Discussion

- **Update on Active Projects/Initiatives**
 - **Invasives Removal from Riparian Corridor by Walter Bland (Jack / Perry)**
 - Jack and Perry briefly updated the Committee to the effect that Walter Bland’s work on invasives removal is on track. Jack and Perry recently met with Walter and Adam Betuel from Atlanta Audubon Society to review the project progress. Most of the anticipated removal work has been completed on time and under budget. Attention and effort will now shift to planning for native plantings to stabilize the site and replace what was removed. Jack will be coordinating a meeting with and input from Elise Cormier and possibly others to advise on that process with a view to submitting a plan to the Department of Parks and Recreation Design Review process during Fall 2019 in advance of a proposed planting for late Fall 2019 or early Winter 2019.
 - **Invasives Removal from Coves by Walter Bland (Jack / John)**
 - Jack briefly confirmed that this work had incrementally progressed and was on track. He expected an updated invoice to be forthcoming from Walter Bland.
 - **Stormwater Infrastructure Assessments (Jack)**
 - Jack noted that there had been no recent activity on this initiative. Dan had exchanged communications on the topic with Doug Voss and may raise the issue with Doug Voss at his upcoming meeting with Department of Parks and Recreation.
- **Routine Maintenance**
 - **None**
- **Small Projects**
 - **Potential Golf Course Amenity (Doug)**

- Perry updated the Committee on Doug's recent efforts to have a new ball washer and spike cleaner amenities installed at the Candler Park Golf Course. Doug obtained Department of Parks and Recreation approval for same at a July Design Review meeting, procured the equipment within the approved budget and furnished the items to the golf course personnel for installation. We will get pictures and so forth once the amenities are installed.
- **Potential Restroom Access (Dan/Perry)**
 - Dan and Perry updated the Committee on recent dialogue with Doug Voss and the Department of Parks and Recreation towards opening the exterior-accessible restrooms at the Candler Park Pool House. Dan noted that the City had previously signaled a willingness to bear responsibility for managing access (locking and unlocking) to the facility through golf course personnel. Dan and Perry noted that Doug Voss had recently signaled that the City might be willing to fund service/maintenance on restrooms as well. As requested by Doug Voss, Dan obtained a quote from a third-party plumbing company for the completion of potential insulation and other preparatory plumbing work to render the relevant restrooms operational. Dan also re-engaged with Artis (sp?) from Department of Parks and Recreation regarding same. Dan noted that the professionals seemed to agree that no insulation/winterization work was likely required. The third-party quote indicated that the restroom could be made functional for under \$1000. Dan plans to re-engage with Doug Voss and the Department of Parks and Recreation at his upcoming meeting.
- **Potential Water Management Solutions on 5th and 6th holes; Potential Meeting with Elise Cormier and David Johnson (Dan / Jack)**
 - Jack indicated that he planned to set up a meeting with Elise Cormier and David Johnson to help develop a proposal for suitable vegetation installation and maintenance plan to demarcate the golf course and riparian areas of the park and mitigate water inundation would be set up following Labor Day.
- **Potential Amy Erwin Memorial Garden (John/Perry/Dan)**
 - Dan updated the Committee on a recent conversation with Stacy Funderburke in which Stacy acknowledged the cost escalation concerns for the project and indicated a plan to have some further meetings with CPC Board stakeholders and Jacob Lange before advancing the Erwin garden for Design Review approval or fundraising.
- **Potential Installation of Physical Barrier to Mitigate Parking Abuses (Perry)**
 - Perry updated the Committee on his communications with Dan Calvert from Department of Parks and Recreation on the proposed rope-and-stake barrier to prevent park users from parking on greenspace and mulched areas of the park. Dan Calvert had not expressed opposition to the idea, but had recommended potentially encouraging APD enforcement as a preliminary measure first. The Committee expressed reluctance to take this step. Kim offered to conduct some outreach on the issue. Dan H may raise the issue for confirmatory purposes at his upcoming meeting with Department of Parks and Recreation.
- **Potential Trees Atlanta Invasives Removal (Perry)**
 - Perry updated the Committee on his communications with Willette Jackson and others from Trees Atlanta regarding invasives removal on the hillsides adjacent the Active Lawn. Trees Atlanta is not able to offer free services or volunteer events to complete this work, but has expressed a willingness to assist on the project through its fee-for-service based Forest Restoration division or potentially under an informal framework in which CPC volunteers would basically be trained to independently complete the work. The quote received from Trees Atlanta to lead the project through its Forest Restoration business, utilizing a combination of

Trees Atlanta professional personnel and community volunteers in a series of events, was \$3784 in total. The Committee was receptive to the idea of conducting this invasives removal work, but acknowledged that the current budget considerations require that it be tabled for present purposes.

- **Potential Water Management Solutions in Passive Hillside Areas (Jack)**
 - Jack noted that this initiative had not received recent work or attention.
- **Potential Sediment Runoff Mitigation Measures (Amy)**
 - Topic was skipped in the interest of time and due to Amy's absence.
- **Potential Pool Upgrade Initiative (Doug)**
 - Perry noted that this initiative had not received much recent work or attention. Doug W had gotten quotes on some of the proposed project elements like the painting and mural work and would potentially push the initiative forward during the off-season.
- **Capital Projects**
 - **Update on AL&A Estimates (Dan)**
 - Dan updated the Committee on recent cost-estimation and other dialogue he has had with a alternative contractor called Site Scapes recommended by Micah Lipscomb of Perkins + Will. Site Scapes could apparently manage the project in-house and achieve significant cost savings through reduced fees and use of alternative phasing and methods like poured-in-place vs. pre-cast concrete. As a result they, provided significantly reduced cost estimates for the proposed Active Lawn and Amphitheater projects. Dan indicated an intention to review and diligence these estimates further. Dan noted recent dialogue with Allison Barnett of Park Pride and an impended deadline for LOIs relative to the November Legacy Grant application process. After discussion, the Committee supported Dan's proposal to submit an LOI as a placeholder for further evaluation and a potential application. Jack expressed that the LOI should not be construed as a commitment to pursue the application or to advance the Active Lawn or Amphitheater projects without further board dialogue and action. John Wolfe discussed the possibility of using polling or similar methods to develop more data on community preferences on project selection and other relevant issues.
- **Preparation for Perkins + Will Playground Pro Bono Work – Sherwood Meeting and Consultant Engagement, Community Input, Phasing, Direction to Perkins + Will (Jack / Dan)**
 - Jack updated the Committee on a proposed meeting at Perkins + Will on Monday August 19 with a civil engineer, Jim Remlin of Sherwood Consulting, to advance the process of getting stormwater and other analyses needed to inform Perkins + Will's 2019 pro bono work. Jack and Dan updated the Committee on a proposed community input session to inform the upcoming design work and promote transparency with the community. The Committee discussed options and suggested a September 7 meeting in one of the park pavilions or otherwise in the park, with a potential contingency location at First E. Jack will try to organize publicity for the event and Jack and Dan will coordinate with Perkins + Will regarding event format and content.

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New Discussion

- **None**