

Candler Park Conservancy, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 13, 2019

7:00 pm

Rush Center Training Room

1530 Dekalb Ave NE, 30307

Present: Kim Awbrey, Ken Edelstein, Dan Hanlon, Elliott Jones, Scott Lenhart, John Skach, Amy Stout, Doug Wetzel, Jack White, and John Wolf.

Ben Klehr arrived ~7:25 pm.

Not Present: Stacy Funderburke*, Perry Smith*, Anne Weinberg, Lauren Welsh*, and Omar Zaki* (with * denoting advance notice of absence provided)

The agenda for the meeting (although not formally adopted nor strictly followed) was as listed below:

1. Welcome
2. Review and Approve Prior Board Meeting Minutes
3. Discussion and Vote on Submission of Anne Weinberg for General Director Position
4. Committee Reports
 - Board Development and Governance Committee
 - Membership, Fundraising, and Communications Committee
 - Finance and Audit Committee
 - Environment, Projects, and Programming Committee
 - Update on Amy Erwin Memorial
 - Update on Playscape Project
 - Update on Active Lawn Park Pride Legacy Grant Application
 - Discussion and Motion to Approve \$25,000 in Funding for Coxe Curry's Engagement to Assist in Fundraising for the Active Lawn Project (Pending the Award of a \$250,000 Park Price Legacy Grant)

Approval of Prior Board Meeting Minutes

The draft meeting minutes from the October board meeting were not ready for review.

Committee Reports:

Board Development and Governance:

- The committee did not meet since the last board meeting, so no written report was provided.
- Scott Lenhart noted that the committee plans to meet next week to review two documents being drafted: a proposed conflict of interest policy and a board commitment form with guidelines and expectations for board members.

Membership, Fundraising, and Communications:

- This committee met November 5th, and a written summary was provided.
- Doug Wetzel asked all board members to provide feedback via email regarding the procedures and practices used for the recent 5K road race that we helped organize and the booth we manned during Fall Fest.
- We netted over \$4,000 from the 5K race.
- Dana Fowle from CPNO has asked us to designate the movie night series as a CPC event for next year. CPNO and Park Pride will continue to provide the majority of the funding. At a minimum, we should break even financially; but there is the potential to sign up additional members for the conservancy and to raise funds via sponsorships and membership dues. The committee voted to move forward with this plan. There will be two movies in the spring and two in the fall.

- John Wolf has volunteered to produce the “Park Post” newsletter and CPC’s social media efforts.
- Depending on the results of a end-of-the-year fundraising effort, the committee has the goal of a pool-related project estimated to cost \$12,500 that would include four sets of tables and chairs and umbrellas, a mural on the south wall, pressure-washing of the pool house, and potentially remove tree growing out of retaining wall.
- Perry and Doug need to update the website with the board meeting minutes, and Omar needs to update the board email distribution list to include newest board members.

Finance and Audit:

- The finance committee did not meet since the last CPC board meeting, but Treasurer Elliott Jones provided a very detailed financial summary that included income and expenses for the year to date, as well as projected expenses based on previous commitments from prior years.
- He noted that for 2019 our total expenses (paid and pending) have been ~\$6K and our revenues have been ~\$28K.
- There is a \$1,500 check to Walter Bland that has not cleared the bank.
- The board unanimously approved a motion to donate \$200 to Park Pride to support their annual appreciation event for park workers. Also, Dan and Doug volunteered to serve at the luncheon.
- There is an invoice from the Rush Center for \$630 that is past due.
- Elliott received a check for \$4,183 from CPNO for our share of the 5K revenue.
- The resulting account balance is projected to be \$51,687.
- It was noted that our Directors and Officer insurance has lapsed. A motion to authorize and direct Dan to obtain D & O insurance, spending up to \$1,000, was unanimously approved; although Scott volunteered to identify a vendor.

Environment, Projects, and Programming:

- The committee did not meet this month, since tonight’s rescheduled board meeting pre-empted it from its normal time on the second Wednesday of the month.
- Jacob Lange has produced a scaled-down and improved design for the Amy Erwin Memorial. We can now obtain new cost estimates. Dan Hanlon will share the new design plans with the group.
- Jack White noted that he had previously shared a summary of the feedback obtained at the public input session that the conservancy hosted to introduce the Playscape designs prepared by Perkins + Will. For next steps, P + W will prepare a series of recommendations. It will only include general suggestions about phasing of the project. It is likely that they will recommend the hillside slides as a stand-alone initial project that can kickstart the overall project but also serve as a manageable item for fundraising purposes. It is still their intention to complete the pro bono design by the end of 2019.
- Jack also updated the group on the invasives removal project in the riparian corridor. For the second phase, we need a planting plan to be approved by the City. He met on site with two golf course superintendents from the City (Jeff King and Steve Kovacs) as well as with Elise Cormier, David Johnson, and Walter Bland. It went very well. Mr. King supports our efforts, and he has experience with beavers. They were open to potentially reducing the scope of mowing on the course, to relocating the seventh tee, and to suggested improvements for the stream crossing at the 6th tee. They also outlined areas that should not be planted. Elise will synthesize all the feedback obtained and devise a planting plan in coordination with Walter Bland. The goal is to present at the Park Design meeting that is the second week in December

and to do the planting during the upcoming dormant season. All agreed that this is a valuable opportunity and a beneficial project. A motion to approve the expenditure of \$3,700 to commission Elise Cormier / Smart Landscapes to create a planting plan and perform all related tasks needed in order to complete the Audubon project was unanimously approved.

- Dan provided an update on the Active Lawn grant application. The proposal is due this Friday. They sent a draft of the proposal to Micah Lipscomb at P + W for his feedback and asked Laura Hennighausen from the Freedom Park Conservancy to review it. The budget projections are consistent with prior estimates, and the budget will include a line item for a project manager. Neither InterAtlanta nor the Atlanta Track Club could commit to funding for the project at the current time; and Josh Antenucci from Rival Entertainment has not responded to any inquiries. The CPNO membership will vote next Monday to allocate \$50,000 in the current year and to provide a second allocation later that is proportional to the revenue from next year's Fall Fest. The grant application will be a \$250,000 request, and the funding gap is anticipated to be ~\$600,000. We have a proposal from Coxe Curry & Associates according to which they would organize a fundraising campaign to fill this gap for a fee of \$25,000. They would prepare the presentation for potential donors and develop the fundraising plan including the entities to ask, the amounts to request from each, and the schedule for the different requests. After moderate discussion by the group, the board voted in support of a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$25,000 on a consulting agreement with Coxe Curry & Associates (subject to the award of a Park Pride Legacy Grant of \$250,000).