

Candler Park Conservancy, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

May 19, 2021, 7:00 pm

Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Present: Omar Zaki, John Wolf, Jack White, Doug Wetzel, Amy Stout, Perry Smith, John Skach, Scott Lenhart, Ben Klehr, Elliot Jones, Stacy Funderburke, Ken Edelstein, Dan Hanlon, Kim Awbrey

Not Present with prior notice: Lauren Welsh

Resources provided on Slack & Email

- Agenda, DW
- Financial Update, JW
- April Draft Minutes, KA
- Potential superdonor spreadsheet KE
- Pavilion estimate SF

Motions Approved:

- Motion to approve April 2021 minutes approved unanimously
-

Meeting Notes

Welcome and review of prior minutes (DW)

- Doug invited the board to consider whether or not we would like to continue our meetings by zoom. Everyone please send thoughts by email to Doug.
- Motion to approve prior minutes approved unanimously.

Active Lawn Discussion

- Active Lawn Committee reports good progress. Donor meetings have been handled by LW and SF. Three solid prospects have emerged. It is likely that we will be able to submit proposals this year. Next steps include mapping out the dates for submissions. At this point, having three or four prospects is encouraging. SF and LW report really good conversations so far.
- DW discussed board commitments for ALA. Five people have committed funds so far. 100% participation by the board is needed. Funds raised directly by the board will 'move the needle' and more importantly full participation from a volunteer board demonstrates dedication which offers leverage in fundraising requests. Think about a donation that each can make over the next two years. Pledges of any amount are requested by this month.
- DW, Scott Thorpe, Kim will look into some statewide grant opportunities that SF found.
- DevComm is compiling superdonor lists.

Quarterly Parks Discussion with CoA Recap

- PS & DW report a productive conversation with John Dargle and Doug Voss of Parks Department. Regional Park designation was discussed. CoA was surprised at the inquiry to consider category change from community to regional status. Further investigation is planned, in conversation with Parks and Recreation, about what regional park status entails, and how it would be achieved if CPC pursues the effort in the case it promises to serve CPC strategic goals.
- DW and PS discussed possible investment by CoA in the ALA, a conversation to be continued in more detail next meeting.
- Restroom: City is willing to split cost of locks, do maintenance and keep them open as long as we can handle cleaning services. DH talking to InterAtlanta who may take on the cost as they already pay for port-a-potties. If IA can make a cost-neutral change they may be able to do that if they can afford it.
- Parks Dept. was interested in the park census.
- Feedback regarding the pavilions, fence, digger and playground projects was that these appear to be fine projects that may be sent to Park Designs Department. Regarding the footbridge design, they will send CPC some examples to consider.

Governance (Scott)

- Two documents are circulating, the *Conflict of Interest Form* and the *Board Commitment Form*. SL has emailed people who still need to sign.
- SL proposes a spreadsheet on slack that lists names and contact information of potential board candidates/recruits – idea met with enthusiasm. SL will post.

Projects (Stacy)

- 'CP Decides' discussion is planned for upcoming Projects Committee meeting.
- Submissions were accepted during April, Amir's office is working through the proposals. Projects committee will discuss proposals that involve Candler Park and consider which projects we can commit to managing. Voting will take place in July.
- All encouraged to join projects meeting to participate and help in the CP Decides process.
- Voters will be aware if CPC endorses and if CPC would manage and contribute funds. Proposals that have leverage and detail will be most likely to succeed.
- Several projects will go to parks design approval process in June, including the pavilions, playground.

Membership/Communications/Fundraising (KE)

- A Superdonors list has been created by Ken and shared on drive and slack:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YGJfgFC6wbk6-QEpAngrdyA09IVcdCqX-lwUnb8sDxs/edit#gid=659724641>
- All are asked to list potential donors on the spreadsheet. Fill in details and add people.
- JWo will update Wild Apricot to create the opportunity to earmark donations to ALA or general fund.
- PS and DW were organizers of chalk-a-palooza and TA Scavenger hunt. These were small park activation programming events for Earth Day which were well received and generated some good fun. Thanks to all who helped.
- Fall Fest is planned for Oct 2&3. Antonucci and another vendor will manage the event. Matt Hansen will be the treasurer. CPC will do the 5k. Running event will link nicely to ALA. Sponsors will be sought.
- Movie Night will probably be three dates in the fall. Friday nights, kid-focused movies. Events are the way we draw new members. Next month we will have more details. Disc Golf event may be possible in May – a four day brief event.

Finance (JWo)

- Quiet month. Current balance is over 54k. When the budget was first passed we assumed no events, but now that we know FFest will happen we may wish to update to reflect possible income.
- CPC's 2020 tax return is complete however an extension is in place allowing time to generate and distribute donor letters. A public notice in the newspaper is also underway.
- JW will make it possible to earmark specific donations on the website.

Damage to the Beaver Pond

- AS reports that the beaver pond has suffered damage over the last months because of storms. The water level is low and there are broken dams affecting habitat. Beavers may be in danger with rippling effect as they play the role of a keystone species. Currently we are not seeing herons or ducks. Small animal remains, likely from a baby beaver, were found on the fairway – a liver and a head. JWh underscored that protection to the habitat depends on water level, adding that if the unfortunate truth is that the beavers are gone, it may be an opening to dredge the silt out of the pond which is a complicated but necessary practice that is done in other urban areas.
- KE suggests this question will be a part of long term planning and vision for the riparian corridor. CPC will need to assess the extent of ecological management desired/possible.