

MINUTES

Mary C. Jenkins Community Center Task Force

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 7:00 PM

City Hall Council Chambers

Members Present: Maurice Jones, Chair, Council Member
Gary Daniel, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Randy Lytle, Citizen Member
Victor Foster, Citizen Member
Karen Darity, Citizen Member
Susan Threlkel, Citizen Member

Absent: David Lutz, Public Works Director
Edith Darity, Citizen Member
Nicola Karesh, Citizen Member

Staff Present: Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant

Guests: Maureen Copelof, City Council Member

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Chair Maurice Jones welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

B. Invocation

Mr. Foster offered an invocation.

C. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon.

D. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Threlkel, seconded by Mr. Foster to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes of September 22, 2020 Meeting

Motion by Mr. Daniel, seconded by Mr. Lytle to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2020 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Update on Rosenwald Community Projects

Mr. Fatland reported that on October 19th the City Council approved a budget of \$120,000 for the Silversteen Playground project and appropriated \$100,000 for the playground equipment. He ordered the playground equipment the next day and it is expected to be delivered the week of December 7th.

At the same meeting the Council voted to move forward with the MCJCC project, and with the increased property tax revenue from HCA, we will be able to pay the debt service on the loan without a property tax increase. Jane Mathews is getting the contract documents in order and we anticipate putting the project out to bid in January, with construction expected to begin in April and final completion one year from then.

Subsequent to the October 19th meeting, the City Council held a special meeting and agreed to sell a parcel of land on Cashier's Valley Road to a non-profit that will build six sweat-equity homes and the \$125,000 from that sale will be earmarked for Silversteen Park and the parking lot improvements. Additionally, the ABC Board has agreed to increase its profit sharing to the City by \$50,000 and Mr. Fatland is going to recommend to City Council that \$30,000 of the additional funds be earmarked for Silversteen Playground. That would bring the total appropriation for these projects to \$255,000. The City has also submitted a grant application to Dogwood Trust for a \$25,000 grant and we will know in early December if our application is successful.

Mr. Fatland said he had hoped that we would be able to simply put a special surface over the existing basketball court and put up new hoops. However, when he shared that with our engineer Alvin Fuller, he advised that the basketball court is too close to Norton Creek in its current location so it will need to be relocated. Mr. Fuller suggested that we could use a portion of the existing court and pour additional concrete at an estimated cost of \$19,000 and add the new surface, which is \$16,000. The other option is to tear up the whole thing and put in a brand new concrete pad at a cost of \$36,000. Mr. Fatland suggested that the new surface could come later, but a key thing would be to put a fence around it. His recommendation is to do the concrete court, new hoops and fence and come in last with the surface. Mr. Daniel suggested that an east/west orientation would cause a problem for players at one end when the sun is setting and that it should be angled in such a way so that is not an issue. If it were to be angled, that would require all new concrete. Mr. Lytle asked about the possibility of putting a cover over the basketball court. Mr. Fatland noted that a cover would be a major expense, and we are looking at the expense of building a new road so we can abandon the other one. The three priorities for Silversteen are playground, basketball court and parking lot/road improvements.

There was discussion about taking the old playground equipment down immediately after the new equipment is installed. Maureen Copelof informed the committee that we have a landscape architect working on the proposed design plan and we are looking at putting a splash pad in the area where the old equipment is now. We hope to have the diagram shortly after Thanksgiving. Ms. Copelof suggested that we organize an event at the playground after the new equipment is installed. It would be an opportunity to

celebrate the new equipment and share the entire plan to let people know what is coming, including information about the road that will be closed. Ms. Copelof shared a draft of a fact sheet she has created for the playground and as soon as the diagram is completed, we will start getting this information out to people. It will also be posted on the City's website.

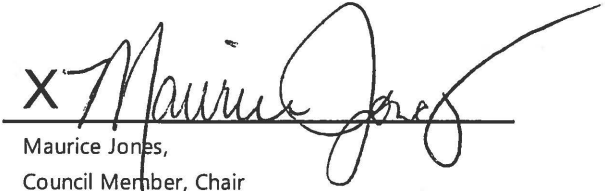
Ms. Copelof said the fundraising team has suggested selling bricks for \$100 to help raise funds for the playground. Mr. Lytle and Karen Darity pointed out that that idea has already been proposed for the MCJCC and there was concern that selling bricks for the playground could take away from fundraising resources for the community center. Ms. Copelof said another suggestion was to sell sponsorships and have a plaque with the sponsors' names on it. Mr. Foster suggested that maybe people would be willing to make donations toward a cover over the basketball court. Following discussion, it was decided that fundraising efforts would include both Silversteen Playground and Mary C. Jenkins Community Center and give people a choice as to which project they want their donation applied. Ms. Copelof will work on developing a fact sheet about the MCJCC to add to the fact sheet about Silversteen Playground and the brick donation form will be revised to include information on both projects.

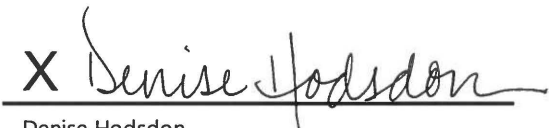
G. Set Date for Next Meeting

In lieu of a regular meeting in December, the committee will have a kickoff event at Silversteen Playground once the new equipment has been installed. The proposed date for the event is either from 4 to 6pm on Tuesday, December 15th or on Saturday, December 12th, depending on completion of installation of the playground equipment.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.

X 
Maurice Jones,
Council Member, Chair

X 
Denise Hodsdon,
Executive Assistant

Minutes Approved: April 20, 2021