

MINUTES

COUNCIL PARKS, TRAILS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

March 15th, 2017 – 3:30 PM

Administrative Conference Room at Brevard City Hall

Members Present: Gary Daniel, Chair, Council Member
Ann Hollingsworth, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Dr. Marty Ingram, Citizen Member
Jimmy Perkins, Citizen Member
Josh Freeman, Community Development/Special Projects Dir.
Lynn Goldsmith, Parks & Property Management Director

Members Absent: Ben Hardy, Citizen Member
Colin Izzard, Citizen Member
Daniel Cobb, Planning Director

Staff: Jill Murray, Deputy City Clerk

Press: Matt McGregor, Transylvania Times

Guests: Kevin Smith, Transylvania County Schools,
Kieran Roe, Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy
Rodney Locks, Public
Nicola Karesh, Public
Keenan Smith, Public

1. Welcome & Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:52 PM on Wednesday, March 15th, 2017.

2. Introductions

Introductions of committee members and guests were made.

3. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified.

4. Review of the Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

5. Transylvania Tannery PARTF Application

Mr. Freeman gave an overview of the PARTF application, the scope of the work, and grant deadlines.

The City is working with Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy to apply for a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant for the construction of trails, a parking lot, restrooms, and further down the road perhaps playgrounds and other recreational amenities.

The deadline for the grant application is May 1st, 2017.

Mr. Freeman gave a history of the property site known locally as The Tannery. It was once home to the Brevard Tanning Company, he showed a 1931 Sanborn Map which showed the location of the former tannery and associated facilities. In addition to the tannery site the city recently acquired a tract formally owned by Satpal Rathie. Together these parcels encompass 25 acres.

The Brevard Tanning Company was in operation from 1916 – 1950's.

Mr. Freeman provided additional overview of the facility and its proposed amenities. Compared to this site of 25 acres, the only other major recreational facility in the City is the Sports Complex, which is 20 acres in size.

There are several site constraints that Mr. Freeman outlined such as floodplains, lead-contaminated soils, and wetlands. There are ways to address these constraints and still have functional use of the property. Discussion followed including opportunities to address these constraints.

The first phase of the project according to Mr. Freeman will encompass a 15-20 vehicle parking lot with ADA accessibility, an entrance to the park, and a series of hard-surface trails.

Not included in the grant application but a desire of the City is to restore Norton Creek which runs along the northern edge of both properties. It has been channelized and incised over the years.

Mr. Smith raised additional questions regarding other amenities like a skate park and pump track. Both of which are needed in the community.

Ms. Karesh commented on the wide audience who would utilize the park like artists, naturalists and the like.

Mr. Roe envisioned something of a central park that can be known throughout Western North Carolina.

Ms. Hollingsworth would like to see an open field of sorts for things like a pickup game of soccer or football. However, she would also like to preserve as much of the natural area as possible.

Mr. Freeman thanked everyone for their attendance and asked for help in inviting others to another input session coming up on March 18th, 2017. He has already delivered over 400 invitations, posted information on the City's website and Facebook pages and asked the committee and guests for help in spreading the word of the input session.

Mrs. Hollingsworth motioned, seconded by Ms. Goldsmith to add restrooms to the first phase of the project. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:35PM on Wednesday, March 15th, 2017.

X 

Gary Daniel
Council Member, Chair

X 
Jill Murray
Deputy City Clerk