

Parks, Recreation, and Visitors Services Committee Meeting - 01/25/2017

MINUTES

City Hall – 206 N. 5th

Regular Meeting

January 25, 2018 5:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Jacksonville Parks, Recreation and Public Services Committee was called to order at 5:03 on January 25, 2018 at the City Hall by Vice Chair, Gary Sprague.

Members present: Gary Sprague, Bernie Croucher, Kristen Sullivan, Kristin Schwartz, City Council Liaison Criss Garcia, Public Works Representative, Richard Shields.

Absent: Kandee McClain

Old Business:

1. Beekman Arboretum: The cement has been poured for the new shelter, structure is up. Handrail on waterfall side needed, boulders will be placed for backfill. Table and benches will be added. Consensus is it looks nice and view is good from shelter.
2. Next article for the *Jacksonville Review* by Kristen Sullivan will be in March and will cover the Arboretum. Kristen to check with Kandee to see if anyone else is writing in this topic.
3. Forest Park Update by Gary Sprague: Volunteer status is they have enough and not asking for more. They have adequate volunteers for bike trails also and are not accepting applications. Forest Park maps were handed out – completed trails highlighted in red and trails to connect loops to be built by June are in yellow. Once completed all work will be maintenance only.

Questions about Forest Park concerning requests for new trails were answered & they would go through Parks Committee. Small Eagle Scout projects would go through City Council, as cost items need to do this.

Electric assist bikes are not currently allowed in Forest Park since no motorized vehicles allowed on trails. Horses are allowed.

4. Dog Park – Visitor, Sarah Maple, introduced herself to present new proposed Dog park area at Creekside Park and a list of components needed per survey of interested people. They are aware of the riparian zone that needs to be addressed. Artificial turf proposed at approximate cost of \$36,000. Trees will need pruning and fence needed.

Kristen Sullivan moved to support efforts to make Creekside Park into Jacksonville's new dog park. This was seconded.

Discussion continued with next move to be dog park group will go to City Council for approval and fund usage possibilities. Costs were discussed and the issue of where they would come from. System development? Dog license fee? The groups' fund raising?

The motion then passed unanimously.

5. City Council Liaison Report: Chinese New Year celebration to begin Jan. 16, with Year of the Dog parade on the 17th, dogs on leash welcome.
6. Public Works Report: Trash regularly picked up. Sod repair at Doc Griffin and Nunan Parks. Sheffel-Thurston irrigation system is being installed. Boulders have been donated from Gold Terrace construction and available for City use. Forest Park maintenance ongoing. Leak at Arboretum repaired. New bridge at Peter Britt Sequoia is scheduled to protect tree roots. Question was raised about stability of "Rails to Trails" bridge.
7. Public Comments:

Eric Thiel, Terrell Dr., Medford, volunteer trail builder gave his thanks to City for urban trails and explained how electric assist bikes work.

Next meeting to be held 5:00 PM April 12, 2018 at City Hall.

Meeting adjourned approximately 6:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Kandee McClain