

Spring Hill Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Doug D'Albini called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

ROLL CALL

Present: Doug D'Albini
Mark Squire
Laila Reis
Darrell Beck
George Eshnaur

Absent: None

Staff Present: Jim Hendershot, Community Development Director & Interim Public Works Director
Dora Davison, Parks Advisory Board Secretary

Meeting Attendees: Mayor Steven M Ellis, Kelli Ludlum, Johnson County Extension Office, Brian Peel, Spring Hill Recreation Commission, Scott Shierk, City of Overland Park, Robert Sanchez, City of Gardner and Thomas Morefield, BikeWalk KC.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mark Squire, seconded by Laila Reis to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0-0.

FORMAL BOARD ITEMS

1. Approval of Minutes: January 23, 2017

Motion by Mark Squire, seconded by Darrell Beck to approve the Minutes. Motion carried 5-0-0.

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Parks Advisory Board task review – Jim Hendershot
 - a. Reviewed comprehensive plan
 - b. Provided maps of future and existing trails
 - c. Basic cost estimations and funding challenges
 - d. Probable obstacles
2. Discussion included
 - a. Grant Opportunities
 - i. Kansas Sunflower Grant
 - ii. Look for grants that could be associated with trails such as stormwater projects and school districts.

- iii. Mid-America Regional Council offers help with planning sustainable places (PSP). The PSP efforts work to advance detailed local planning and project development activities that further the creation of vibrant places that offer a mix of options for housing, jobs, services and recreation; connected places with a variety of transportation options; and green places that support healthy living and a healthy natural environment.
- iv. BNSF has a grant program that maybe helpful in trail planning.
- b. Challenges
 - i. Trail Maintenance is a growing challenge for all cities present.
 - 1. Budgeting for maintenance before installation even in areas that are maintained by the home owners association. HOA's have dissolved and the maintenance of the trails has fallen back to the city.
 - 2. Bridges over creeks need to be extended as the creek enlarges.
 - ii. Access points
 - iii. Growth
 - 1. The sporadic trails built within subdivisions while helpful is a slower process. Involvement in regional projects is preferred for faster growth.
 - 2. Spring Hill trail system may be of interest on a state level due to the Katy Trail coming north.
 - 3. The eastern edge of the Flint Hills connection coming from Osawatomie to Kansas City could be near or through Spring Hill.
 - iv. Types of users & safety
- c. Parks Advisory Board observations
 - i. Re-evaluate the Parks Master Plan and develop a more realistic and updated understanding of where regional activity is encouraging future growth.
 - 1. Reach out to surrounding communities to review future trail plans to make connections.
 - ii. Hold a community forums including a mockup of choices with costs associated.
 - iii. Seek partnerships from entities willing to be involved and offer cooperation.

STAFF REPORTS

Daffodil Days participation application has been submitted. Color me flower pots and gift trees will be ordered soon. Mrs. Davison will contact the Miami County and Johnson County Extension Offices for soil testing kits and information on the Emerald Ash Borer. A recommendation was made to reach out to master gardeners in the community to provide information at the Parks Advisory Board booth.

Community Forester Kim Bomberger visited Spring Hill February 14, 2016 and helped city staff identified the best route to establish the remaining portion of Veteran's Lane to the park area. Mrs. Bomberger educated staff on the best practices of thinning out overgrown tree areas. She will also assist in the development of a tree inventory not only in designated park areas but also in the street right of way.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS

None

ADJOURN

Motion by Darrell Beck, seconded by Laila Reis to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0-0.

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION
AND ARE NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE SPRING HILL PARKS ADVISORY BOARD

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

 Dora Davison
Dora Davison, Parks Advisory Board Secretary