

The City of Frederick, Maryland
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MS Teams
Minutes of August 8, 2023
(Approved September 12, 2023)

Members Present: J. Baldi; R. Goff; L. Hill; S. Costlow; M. Lawrence; R. Fox; J. Henson

Staff Present: B. Smith, Dep. Dir Parks & Recreation; S. Stamper, Office Manager.

Regrets/Absent: Alderman D. Shackelford; S. Pollack; J. Grove

Guest/s Present: Ms. Kara Norman, Downtown Frederick Partnership; Mr. Roger Carroll, artist; Ms. Lisa Wolff, Berry Dunn; Mr. Tom Diehl, Berry Dunn

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman J. Baldi called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

MINUTES: June 13, 2023

J. Henson moved to approve the minutes as distributed. S. Costlow seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review of proposed artwork for Seventh Street Fountain Park. Downtown Frederick Partnership (the Partnership) and the African American Resources Cultural Heritage Society (the AARCH Society), working with a public art consultant, held a community meeting that resulted in public art goals. These goals were key to the process of selecting an artist to complete the artwork proposed for Seventh Street Fountain Park. The selected artist, Rodney Carroll, was chosen for best meeting the community expressed public art goals .

Ms. Kara Norman, the Partnership, introduced herself, and the artist for the sculpture, Rodney Carroll. She gave a brief history of the project and requested concept approval.

S. Costlow moved to recommend approval of the sculpture and the pavers for this project to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. L. Hill seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Review of Parks and Recreation Master Plan

B. Smith noted that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was reviewed by the Mayor and Board last fall. He introduced Lisa Wolff, and Tom Diehl of Berry Dunn, formerly GreenPlay.

Ms. Wolff shared her screen and briefly talked about the other members of the project team. She also gave an overview of the Master Plan. Mr. Diehl added additional information.

J. Henson noted that he is an advocate of equity throughout the City, and asked how the plan addressed that topic. Ms. Wolf referenced the heat maps included in the Master Plan.

B. Smith noted that he has been using the GRASP analysis and heat maps since September. One example was when considering court replacement surfaces. It is a valuable tool.

S. Costlow asked if there was a recommended schedule for playground equipment replacement. Ms. Wolf stated that there are national recommendations.

B. Smith noted that the department does have a few certified playground inspectors on staff. Playground equipment is generally replaced on a 20-year cycle. In the past four (4) years, the City has implemented an ongoing playground replacement Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Mr. Diehl noted that all equipment has a life expectancy. When equipment is purchased, plans should be instituted for replacement.

M. Lawrence noted that looped trails are used more frequently, especially distance measured loop trails.

J. Baldi mentioned the need for more bicycle trails.

R. Fox moved to recommend approval of the plan as presented. J. Henson seconded the motion which was approved with six (6) positive votes. J. Baldi's technology was frozen, and his vote was unable to be captured.

J. Henson moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:17 p.m. R. Goff seconded the motion.