In Attendance

Committee Members: Ken Rattarree (Chair), Galit Pinker, Nanda Siddaiah (Secretary), Tricia Lance, Michael Reidel
Staff: Keith Watson (Community Programs manager), Kim Wade (Facilities Maintenance Supervisor)
Board Liaison: Wendy Kroger
Absent: Kristen Abele, Alaka Sarangdhar Carl Nelson, Tiago Zuccari, Pat Sheleny (resigned)

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM

II. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the August 2020 meeting were presented to the committee. Minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Public Comment: No public comments were received

IV. New Business

• ADA Transition Plan Updates: Keith provided a brief background on the plan and projects completed since 2016. Kim updated the committee on projects completed by her trades team during the COVID-19 facility closures. 340 low cost/no cost projects have been completed at a significant savings by using THPRD staff. Galit asked how we decide which projects take priority and how we determine the order of operation. Keith explained that THPRD has an ADA transition plan team who prioritize projects, manage the budget, and make recommendations. Galit stressed that we should prioritize accessibility projects and Keith reiterated that THPRD is committed to accessibility and will continue making progress. Wendy thanked Kim and her team for the work they have done during the facility closures.

• Park & Facility Reopening Updates: Keith provided an update on all the parks and facilities that are reopening this month and over the next few weeks. Nanda commented that he was thankful the tennis center was open and asked what the plan was for staff returning to their previous positions. Keith explained that we are ramping up slowly with court reservations and that the staffing structure would look different for the foreseeable future. Ken asked if there is any opportunity for the committee to help as we begin reopening parks and facilities. Keith mentioned opportunities to get engaged through volunteerism and that he would reach out to the committee directly on potential projects.

• Community Events Update: Keith provided an update on community and cultural events being funded through the Community Psyche Grant. Keith shared that the event calendar on the website should be updated for this fall and winter.

• Zoom Meeting Update: Keith shared that THPRD management has approved a Zoom account to host future public meetings and that we would make the switch to Zoom possibly in October, but more likely in November.
V. Old Business

- **Future Dog Run Discussion:** Keith refreshed the committee on the PowerPoint that he shared at the August meeting regarding dog runs. He shared the two new proposed sites (Ridgewood Park and Garden Home Park) and asked the committee for feedback. Galit commented that Bethany Lake would be an ideal site. Keith explained that the focus currently is on the NE and SE quadrants of the district, but this site would certainly be considered in the future. There was consensus that THPRD staff should pursue the two sites presented. Committee members also mentioned they would be willing to volunteer at public outreach events.

- **Jackie Husen Dog Run Review:** Keith provided the questionnaire from the Jackie Husen neighborhood and asked if the committee had any comments or feedback. Galit mentioned one neighbor was resistant to the park and asked for a status update. Keith explained that he had spoken with a few neighbors and that there are a few who continue to be opposed. Wendy mentioned that keeping up the maintenance was critical. Keith indicated there is additional information being gathered by maintenance staff and volunteer park stewards that he would share with the committee in the next week or two. Keith mentioned that at the October or November meeting he will provide all the information he has available for the committee to make a recommendation to THPRD management on whether or not the dog run will become a permanent fixture at the park. A brief discussion was had about ways to soften the impact to the local neighbors if the run was approved (landscape, trees, shrubs, etc…).

- **Somerset West Grant:** Keith informed the committee that the request for challenge grant funds for play equipment at Somerset West Park was not pursued as the matching funds from the Reeser Family Foundation did not come to fruition.

- **Advisory Committee Recruitment Update:** Keith informed the committee that the board approved reappointment of the 5 AC members who submitted for 1-year extensions and that they also agreed to pause on recruitment for the 5 vacancies we currently have. We will revisit recruitment when in person meetings are able to begin again in 2021 and will consider a mid-year appointment at that time.

VI. Wrap Up

- Keith gave a quick update on the park naming process being developed by Liana Harden and shared that she will be at the October meeting to share progress and gather feedback.

- Nanda asked whether THPRD is developing an app for all the online reservation options that are now available. Discussion ensued about THPRD’s lack of an app and why this is not being pursued. Wendy indicated that she would like Keith to inform the management team that this topic was discussed by the committee and that there is a real interest.

VII. Next Meeting

- Keith told the committee he would confirm whether there was a Joint AC Meeting in October.

- The next meeting of the Parks & Facilities Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 6:00 PM., or following the Joint Advisory Committee meeting. It will be a virtual meeting, held online, on MS Teams or Zoom. Meeting invites will be sent out to committee members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Keith Watson, THPRD staff