

WHITEHALL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

November 3, 2016 – Special Meeting

The special meeting of the Whitehall Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:04 pm by Chairperson John Fethers. In attendance: Mike Adkins, Tiffanie Charles, Fethers, Greg Thurman, Zach Wright, and Shannon Werner.

Charles moved, seconded by Thurman, to excuse the absent members and the motion carried 5 – 0.

Fethers requested a roll call on whether each member received a copy of the agenda. The five present members answered in the affirmative.

Werner made a recommendation regarding tree planting. Staff found a great deal on eighteen 2 – 3” caliper trees (mostly Elm and Maple varieties) from Dill’s Greenhouse. Staff feels the trees need to be a large as possible to withstand potential vandalism. The Commission agreed to the purchase and the trees will be planted by staff.

Next, the Commission discussed payment of the final invoice to the disc golf course designer, Daniel Boutte. Staff feels the designer fulfilled his end of the contract, even if there are no immediate plans for installation. The contract does not include drawings/renderings of the course design, however Mr. Boutte agreed to provide a digital rendering of the design upon payment. The Commission agreed to pay the final invoice and request the conceptual drawings of the 18-hole course. Wright also asked if staff could re-stake the course if/where necessary to the best of their ability. It was discussed that the project will need to be approached differently at a later time to move the project forward.

Moving on, the Commission discussed the 15 applicants, forwarded to the department by HR, for the Parks and Recreation Director’s position. Commissioners discussed the education, work history, and accomplishments of the applicants. Six applicants were selected to interview: Patrick Nalley, Eric Newell, Gary Schussler, Douglas Carlisle, Shannon Sorrell, and Mary Beth Sills.

Thurman asked if perhaps, they should wait to hire a director until after the city determines if/what kind of relationship it will have with the YMCA. That way a new hire would know exactly what the position would entail. He then suggested, and others agreed, that a meeting with the Mayor to discuss how a partnership with the YMCA would potentially shape the director’s responsibilities may be prudent. That would allow the Commission to present the position as honestly as possible to the candidates, as well as to hire the best fit.

Werner will invite the Mayor to a discussion and see if the dates of November 7 or 10 fit into her schedule. The Commission agreed to further discuss potential interview questions and interview dates at this meeting.

There being no further business, Charles moved, seconded by Adkins, and the meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

To the best of my knowledge, these minutes are true and correct.

Chairperson