

Sanford Parks Advisory Committee
Depot Park
106 Charlotte Ave, Sanford NC
February 21, 2022 4:00pm

Meeting Minutes

The following people were present

Chad Spivey
Jon Dean
Joni Martin
Todd Childers

Non-Voting Attendees

Nick Fortune

Call to order

Todd Childers called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Chad Spivey to approve minutes from last meeting, second by Joni Martin.

Administrators Report

Nick Fortune gave an update on some parks projects and employee turnover and stated that he hoped to be fully staffed by the time the splash-pad is opened this season. Nick gave a slideshow presentation of what has been accomplished by the committee so far since May to include completing a SWOT analysis, developing a mission statement and forming sub committees. The need is now trying to figure how the committee functions so that tasks can be completed. Need to establish the current focus and list the "top of five" items based on what is important and how to accomplish them.

Greenway development needs to be included in the master plan, and that does not exist right now. Brief discussion amongst the committee about who would pay for the development, research, and projects for the expansion of greenway. Joni Martin asked where the connecting points are for the greenway are proposed. Nick showed a map of future greenway projects projected to happen with DOT including the "medical mile" and adding bike lanes 3rd Street like 7th Street.

Discussion amongst the committee about the "Rails to Trails" program by DOT which includes taking over abandoned A&W railroads and paving over existing tracks. Jon Dean stated that the previously discussed abandoned railway from last meeting is again still there and there is sense of urgency to secure the line before a resident or business. Chad Spivey asked if it there needs to be a motion for recommendation that this request be presented to council.

Joni stated that time is of the essence and questioned if we should start with City management and that the committee need a representative that would work and hand together to move things along. There a need to update the existing master plan from 2018 to include greenways. Jon said he would be interested to know more of the network of greenways, from others' experience of other towns/states around us of how they got their greenways connected.

Will need to research and find a firm that could make the greenway plans, make recommendations to get the City Council to pay for new plan, have public input, and then present to council to ask for funding. Chad suggested that the next plan of action would be to find a couple of firms who would be willing to come up the greenway plan and provide a quick estimate for the costs to then be presented to City Council. Nick stated that this would be a good way to move forward especially for budgeting purposes.

Old Business

New Business

Presentation of McIver/Sunset Park delayed until the next meeting due to Al Roethlisberger's absence.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on March 21st.

Comments

None.

Adjournment

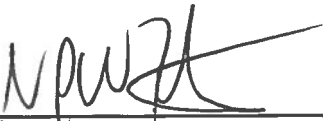
Motion was made to adjourn by Chad at 5:17pm, unanimously approved by the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,



Todd Childers, Chairman

Attest:



Nick Fortune, Clerk