

West Central Neighborhood Association
Association Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2019, 7:00pm

Call To Order – 7:02pm, 34 attendees

Guest Speakers – Steve McDaniel, Director of Parks & Recreation

- **Moody Park Background**
 - 5.1 acres
 - Bordered by Jones, College, Wilt, and Nelson
 - Once the site of a gravel pit and horse barn
 - Known as the West Central Park until 1981 when it was renamed in honor of the co-creator of Wellspring Interfaith Social Services, Reverend Bill Moody
 - In 2019, WCNA decided that proceeds from the Home & Garden Tour would go into a Moody Park Improvement Fund
- **Improvement Ideas & Cost Estimates**
 - New safety surfacing at the playground - \$45,000
 - New surfacing and paint on the basketball court - \$20,000
 - Improve the existing pavilion by adding lighting and a drinking fountain - \$20,000
 - New pavilion with restrooms - \$300,000
 - The city is open to either having the restrooms open all the time *or* allowing us to open the restrooms when we choose
 - We could also put the restrooms on a schedule so they're unlocked in the morning and locked up at night
 - A member asked if we could do new bathrooms without building a new pavilion
 - Steve said they are building a single unisex bathroom at Johnny Appleseed Park right now and it cost \$185,000 – this may vary depending on where utilities are located
 - Build a sport field (like a mini soccer field) - \$60,000
 - Build an 8 foot wide walking path around the park - \$75,000
 - A member asked if there were options other than asphalt for this path
 - Steve said they've tried concrete and crushed stone
 - A member asked how we can keep scooters and motor bikes off the path
 - They can put up a geo-fence to prevent scooters from using the path
 - Splash pads aren't really on the table anymore due to cost
 - The utilities alone cost \$30,000-\$50,000 per year for water
 - A member suggested putting in pickle ball courts
 - A member suggested lights on the basketball court

- A member asked about motion-sensor lights in the pavilion
 - Steve said we could do this, but they would turn on every time a squirrel runs through, and they'll turn off if you're sitting still
- A member asked who would be in charge of maintenance
 - Steve said the Parks Department would
 - This might disallow certain great ideas because the Parks Department doesn't have the budget to maintain them
- A member pointed out that we don't have parking in or near Moody, so putting things like a splash pad or dog park in wouldn't be a very good idea
- A member asked why the Parks Department can't do this on their own without our money
 - Steve said they have 87 parks, which means the budget doesn't stretch very far
 - It often takes years before they can focus a large amount of money on one park
 - Even if we vote no, the improvements may still happen, but it will take much longer to compile the money
- Master Planning Process
 - A small steering committee, made up of 6-8 people will be established
 - This should be a diverse group of advocates/champions with a range of interests
 - The committee will meet with the Parks staff to develop goals in the form of guiding principles
 - Hold two public input meetings that will be held in the park where neighbors can be heard on what they like about Moody, what they dislike about Moody, and what ideas they have for the future
 - Parks staff will aggregate the input from the public, test it against the guiding principles and develop a draft comprehensive plan
 - The steering committee will meet to review the draft plan and make any changes
 - The final plan is completed with priorities for funding and presented to the association for review and approval

Old Business

- Beautification Program
 - They will reimburse 50% up to \$300 for street-facing beautification projects
 - So far this year
 - 19 projects submitted
 - 12 projects completed
 - 8 projects paid (4 still waiting for their check)
 - Total copays by NeighborLink: \$2,934.05
 - Remaining funds: \$65.95

- They are doing this in 5 different neighborhoods this year
- Ben is asking if the Association wants us to continue the program once they run out of money, using our own funds
 - There was some debate about whether or not we should try to carry the program over to cover the outstanding applications, or if we should let it run out and readdress the program next spring
 - A member made a motion to fund all remaining applications that have already been turned in
 - 26 yes, 2 no
 - Motion passed
- Home Tour Recap
 - 12 tour stops with 2 late drop out
 - 115 volunteers for 132 shifts
 - 6 first-time homes on the tour
 - New this year
 - Tour stop signs in the yards
 - Pre-tour party was at The Phoenix
 - Trolley running loops
 - Cardstock tickets with numbers
 - Ticket sales
 - \$19,677 – the highest tickets sales in history
 - Physical in-person ticket sales were down a lot this year
 - Online ticket sales were \$2,383
 - The Swinney Park location sold almost \$8,000 of the total Saturday & Sunday tickets
 - Sponsorship income
 - \$21,650 – by far our largest amount of sponsorships in history
 - Tyler said to watch for a survey in the neighborhood news email
 - Responses will be shared at the tour post-review meeting
 - 2020 Tour
 - They're always looking for more help with the tour committee
 - Still looking for 7-9 more tour stops for next year
 - The total revenue from the home tour since 2009 is over \$283,000

Reports

- Treasurer – Approximately \$175,200 in the bank
- Membership – 81 members, 12 organizations/businesses, 1 lifetime
- Secretary – August association meeting minutes provided to view

New Business

- Steve Miranda read a letter in regards to the Home & Garden Tour
 - He says he is speaking on behalf of others in the neighborhood

- They are displeased with the “commercialization” of this year’s home & garden tour
- He says they are upset because 3 of the tour stops this year were owned by President of our Association, Ben Wahli
- He pointed out they often spent until as late as August to get homes on the tour because they wanted the homes to be owner-occupied and offer something unique
- He does not want the tour to become a corporate event – it needs to remain neighbor-driven
- There was some discussion about whether or not homes that are for sale should be allowed as tour stops in the future

Upcoming Events

- September 21 – Tire & TV Day, 8-11:30am, meet in the parking lot at the corner of Wilt and Van Buren
 - You may drop tires and TVs off in the parking lot during this time as well
- December 16 – Christmas Party, 7-9pm

Concluded – 8:40pm