

Chairman Scott Discon called the meeting to order at 6:03pm

The secretary called the roll.

Commissioners Present: Brien Croff, Scott Discon, Lee Frederick, Christy Kervin

Absent: Will Afton, Shawn Potter, Shelley Winstead

Staff Present: Rad Dickson, Planner; Alex Weiner, Secretary

Minutes

Mr. Croff made a motion to adopt the minutes from the October 2 meeting, Ms. Kervin seconded, and all were in favor.

The agenda was opened by Mr. Discon to add the Mayors Landscape Summit and the Woodlake Elementary School Garden and was unanimously approved by the commission.

New Business

Adoption of the 2024 Meeting Dates

Mr. Discon asked if any of the commissioners had any conflicts with the proposed dates. With no conflicts raised the meeting dates were unanimously approved.

Resolution to the City Council

Mr. Discon said that paragraphs 1-4 on the letter would be turned into "whereas" clauses and added to the resolution.

Ms. Frederick asked if the fourth item on the resolution could be taken out of paragraph form and made into a bulleted list. Mr. Discon said to add a colon after "to support" and then list the items as a,b,c.

Ms. Frederick said she wrote a preface to point out pertinent reasons for doing this and asked that the verbiage she wrote be used. Mr. Weiner said that could be done.

Ms. Kervin moved to adopt the changes to the resolution and Ms. Frederick seconded.

Mr. Croff moved to adopt the revised resolution, Ms. Kervin seconded, and the resolution was approved unanimously.

Skelly Kreller: Is this going to be presented to the council next week? Mr. Weiner said that he was unsure of the deadline that Ms. Schere needed documents, he will give it to her once it has been signed by Mr. Discon. Mr. Kreller would like to see a copy as well.

Landscape Summit

Buck Abbey, 1129 Villere: He met with the mayor about hosting another landscape summit. It should be sponsored by the Parks and Parkways Commission as an educational program. There were 600 views at the last summit. It is a wonderful way to reach the community. He is asking for the blessing to do this as a product of the Commission. Mr. Abbey will give a talk about the state of the urban forest. Mr. Discon would be there to represent the Commission. This is the best way to get Commission information to the general public. He will ask the mayor to bring in two experts to participate as well.

Mr. Discon asked who the experts would be. Mr. Abbey said he cannot mention names yet. One will talk about urban forest management plans and the other will talk about management of the urban forest. They will come from out of town.

Mr. Abbey said the plan is for an hour and would start at 6:00pm. If any Commissioners have any input they could send it to him.

Parks and Parkways Commission

November 6, 2023

Page 2 of 3

Woodlake Garden

Mary Ann Schroyer, 1000 Montgomery: She was the original principal of Woodlake Elementary School. Prior students have reached out to start a garden. They worked with Marigny Elementary and the LSU Ag Center along with the Master Gardeners.

Terri Hamilton, 1111 Villere: She was approached to get the garden going again. She met with Marigny Elementary to get started. They have a wish list of supplies they would like.

Ms. Kervin asked how the commission can do this? Ms. Hamilton said they are after every source of funding they can get and would love any support.

Mr. Discon asked if there was a list. Ms. Hamilton said there was and read out the list. *The list will be attached at the end of the minutes*

Mr. Discon asked what the age group was. Ms. Hamilton said it was Pre-K through 3rd Grade.

Skelly Kreller, District 2: Glad he came to the meeting tonight. He is behind the Woodlake Project. He will double the amount being requested and present it to the city council. He does not think it will be a problem.

The E Causeway sidewalk is about 75% complete. He was upset when he heard that Public Works wanted to concrete the south side of E Causeway and the north side of the sidewalk. It needs to be landscaped to give a visual barrier.

Mr. Kreller said that New Golden Shores had the Cambronne entrance widened. There is 20ft of city property that is barren and is the perfect place for some oak trees. He suggested about six on each side. He does not know the cost, but would like some nice sized oaks. Mr. Discon suggested getting the same size as the street trees.

Mr. Kreller said that District 2 has two big properties to be developed and they hopefully will be developed within the next five years. He will be behind anything needed.

Staff Update

Mr. Weiner reminded the commission to complete their yearly training.

Ms. Kervin asked what the status of the tree inventory was. Mr. Weiner said he would have to check on that as Catherine Fuselier was handling that project.

Ms. Frederick wanted to check on the longleaf pines. Mr. Discon said that he would talk with Ms. Bartholomew and get her the order. Mr. Dickson will be their contact. They will put the order in for 12 pines. They will also put a garden by the signage to add some color.

Mr. Dickson asked if that was to be wildflowers? Mr. Discon said to get perennials. He added that it should not look to neighborhoody, and still have a natural look. This was just to add color.

Mr. Abbey said to do mixed planting.

Mr. Dickson said there is no irrigation on site. Mr. Discon said that they will get water over there.

Ms. Frederick asked to check on the burn. Mr. Dickson said that it was already under contract. Ms. Frederick asked how many years. Mr. Dickson said he did not have the details. Mr. Discon said to get the details. Ms. Frederick suggested having Jess Cole do the other aspects.

Ms. Kervin asked if the N Causeway project could be added to the next agenda again. Mr. Discon said it could be.

Mr. Croff suggested considering a rain barrel construction workshop at the school garden. It is a simple project.

Ms. Frederick said they are losing trees to the drought. Mr. Discon said the City should buy a water truck.

Mr. Kreller said he would get a proposal. Mr. LaGrange said that he had guys to drive it.

Public Comment

Ms. Hamiton said that it should be a permanent job at Public Works to drive the water truck.

Mr. Abbey said that the mayor could get a tanker from the fire department and hit the trees on the Lakefront. At least checking the moisture levels would be worthwhile.

Mr. Discon said they should get at least one tanker, maybe two. Mr. Kreller said that he agrees with Mr. Abbey. If the trees along the Lakefront die people will go nuts. A trailer would be fine but the goal should be a tanker.

Ms. Kervin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:54pm, seconded by Mr. Croff and was unanimously approved.



Alex Weiner, Secretary



Scott Discon, Chairman
Parks and Parkways Commission

Woodlake Elementary School Garden
Wish List

1. (2) 8' Troughs (Tractor Supply) \$600 each
2. Vigoro Plant Plastic T-Labels (25 pack) \$6.98
3. (4) MSI Multi-colored Bagged Landscape Rock
\$107.96
4. Acurite Analog Thermometer \$16.48
5. (2) 4' Troughs \$398.00
6. AcuRite 5" Rain Gauge \$19.98
7. (2) Bloem 2G Classic Plastic Watering Can \$37.58
8. (2) Garden Weasel Garden Trowel \$22.96
9. Resin Sitting Birdbath \$39.99
10. Polycarbonate Greenhouse \$479.99
11. (2) Greenhouse Growlights \$125.00
12. (2) Seedling Heat Mat \$49.98

TOTAL \$2504.90