Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

August 25, 2011 Special Meeting

The August 25th Special Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7pm at the Picnic Pavilion at Melton Lake Park with Gerry Palau, Board Chair presiding.

Roll Call

Members present included: Sherith Colverson, Bob Cushman, Bridgette Ellis, Allen Eubanks, Gerry Palau, Laurel Patrick, Lou Rabinowitz, Dan Robbins and Cathy Toth.

Unfinished Business

Discuss Pavilion Design/Size/Location Options

Chairman Palau led the discussion focusing on potential locations for the pavilion, configurations and orientation on the site near the playground. The Board discussed three potential pavilion designs and pointed out key features. Members stressed the importance of establishing a relationship between the playground, walking trail, volleyball court and parking area. Discussions moved toward the need for mastering planning the “footprint” of the area. Five development priorities were discussed by the Board.

The design for the pavilion area site plan should embrace the following guiding principles:

1. The site should accommodate a pavilion that is a signature waterfront facility that will set the tone for high quality additional development of the waterfront park in the future. The pavilion should be located in the area to the north of the existing parking lot; it should be capable of accommodating large gatherings (minimally 150 people), as well as supportive of community supported events such as rowing regattas.

2. The site should continue to accommodate opportunities for children’s recreation (e.g., playground, splash pad, and open green space).

3. The site should accommodate an approximately 50% expansion of the existing parking capacity through a combination of improvement of the layout and configuration of the existing lot, as well as through the construction of additional surface parking area.

4. The site plan should balance the highest and best use of the site in consideration of the value of existing infrastructure.

5. The site plan should seek to maximize, to the extent practical based on physical and financial constraints, the environmental sustainability of the infrastructure, including consideration of:
   i. recycled materials;
   ii. pervious paving;
iii. low energy lighting (e.g., LED);
iv. reduction of heat islands (e.g., planting shade trees, high albedo surfaces, etc.);
v. possible locations for placement of solar panels.

Lou Rabinowitz made a motion to send a recommendation to the City Manager encouraging the City to enter into a contract with an A/E firm to develop a Master Plan for the eastern end of Melton Lake Park and to include the five development priorities in the scope of work. Bob Cushman seconded the motion. During final discussions, Board members expressed a desire to develop a realistic plan to address key features included in the Waterfront Concept Plan. The motion was approved by a 9-0 vote.

Discuss Public Input Process for the Pavilion

This discussion was deferred to the regular meeting in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.