

The Workshop Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Cohen at 7:30 p.m. in the Administrative Offices of the Deerfield Park District located in the Jewett Park Community Center. Attendance was taken and the following were:

Present: Antokal, Caron, Cohen, Lapin, Patinkin (5)

Absent: None (0)

And there was a quorum in attendance. Also in attendance was Jeff Nehila, Secretary/ Executive Director; Jay Zahn, Linda Anderson, Tony Korzyniewski, staff members.

Matters from the Public

No members of the public were present.

Landscape Architect Firm Presentations for Jewett Park Master Planning

One of our Strategic Plan Objectives for 2018 was to develop an updated Master Plan for Jewett Park. The district received seven Requests for Proposals from Landscape Architect firms that are interested in the project. Staff has narrowed down the group to two finalists. These two finalists have been invited to make a 20-minute presentation to the board. The firms are Hitchcock Design Group and Planning Resources Inc.

Staff believes either firm can do an excellent job in helping us to develop a Master Plan for Jewett Park. The playground closest to the Community Center is scheduled for renovation this fall. The 2019 capital project plan includes appropriations for the renovation of the skate park, the two ballfields and the circle drive on the west end of the building.

Hitchcock Design Group

Joe Brusseau began his presentation with an overview of Hitchcock Design Group. Hitchcock Design Group employs a team approach not only within the company but with the park board, staff, the public and user group. Hitchcock Design has a lot of resources with 35 employees in 4 different offices, 32 are landscape architects. Hitchcock Design is very creative and has over 150 years of collective experience. Hitchcock Design Group is also part of the team for the Northwest Quadrant.

Hitchcock Design Group will work with the board, staff, affiliates and the public to create a vision for the park. The first step would be to look at the customer base. Based on the district's population served, 31% is 55 years old and over and 27% are 0-19 years old. Next, Hitchcock Design looked at ages living within a one-mile radius of the park which showed 14% are 55 years old and over and about 30% are 0-19 years old. Surveys are an important way to gather information. Hitchcock will review all of the existing facilities within the district to determine if any amenities should be located in different parks. Hitchcock will also make sure that all ADA compliances are met or exceeded. Other important factors are signage, arrival points, parking, etc. It's important to look at long term adaptability of the improvements made.

Samples of previous work done by Hitchcock Design Group were shared.

Planning Resources Inc.

Darrel Garrison, Steve Halberg, Bob Collins and Ben Kutscheid were present from Planning Resources Inc. Darrel Garrison began the presentation by explaining that Planning Resources is a full-service landscape architecture and natural resources planning firm, but this presentation will focus on the park and recreation planning capabilities of the company.

After analyzing the site, some of the issues that need to be addressed include ingress/egress, grade changes, drainage, ballfield size, ADA accessible backstop by baseball field, vehicle drop-off and pick-up in the turnaround, enhanced access and optimized programming for the ballfields.

Planning Resources has a design philosophy which is in the company's name, Planning Resources. Planning Resources uses the 3 R's - Resources, Responsibilities and Respect. The resources are the land, the facilities and the budget. Planning Resources is responsible to the community and the community's values. The values will come to light during the focus groups. Planning Resources has respect for the neighbors, the adjacent land owners as well as respecting and integrating the natural resources.

Samples of previous work done by Planning Resources Inc. were shared.

Discussion

President Cohen thought the Planning Resources Inc. presentation was more specific towards creating a Master Plan. Commissioner Caron felt Planning Resources Inc. was more focused on our specific project. Commissioner Antokal liked the My Sidewalk app that Planning Resources will use as a survey tool to reach people that may not be able to attend a meeting. Treasurer Lapin appreciates the effort of Planning Resources Inc. put into showing us what they are made of. Vice-President Patinkin thought it was a positive note that Planning Resources would seek out someone that was familiar with the district.

Director Nehila stated that Planning Resources Inc. put together the best proposal out of the 7 received.

Commissioners directed staff to proceed with a contract with Planning Resources Inc. for approval at the March 15, 2018 Regular Board Meeting.

Commissioner Caron suggested getting the Northwest Quadrant stakeholders involved at an early stage.

Other Legislative Conference

The Legislative Conference in Springfield is coming up on April 23 & 24, 2018.

Workshop Meeting
March 1, 2018
Page 3

Sachs Recreation Center Fitness Report

Staff distributed a Fitness Report for Usage of the Exercise Studio at Sachs Recreation Center June – August 2017 and September – November 2017 comparing class attendance before and after the new starting time format.

Motion made by Commissioner Caron, seconded by Commissioner Antokal, to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at 9:13 p.m. Voice vote as follows:

AYES: Caron, Antokal, Lapin, Patinkin, Cohen (5)

NAYS: None (0)

Motion passed in a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeff Nehila, Secretary