Partnership Committee Meeting Minutes – Nov. 8.2023

Kirkwood Community Center, Room 202

Meeting began at 4:05 p.m. In attendance: Kahty Paulsen (chair), Ellen Edman, Christ Molitor. Staff: Kyle Henke

I Citizen Comments – There were no citizen comments

II. Approval of Oct. 4, 2023 Minutes – Motion to approve by Ellen Edman, second by Christ Molitor

III. Unfinished Business

1. Webster Groves Nature Society – James Earl Comfort – Kiosk.

Kyle stated that at the last Park Board meeting Pete & Curt recommended that this kiosk should be the same style as the Greentree Park wetlands signage. Pete has contacted that company to get an estimate. The cost may be higher, but it has been suggested that the difference could be covered from the Parks Budget. The Park staff believes that vandalism will be less problematic with this type of signage. The Park staff also wants to establish uniformity with interpretative signage in Kirkwood Parks. Kyle will talk to the Webster Groves Nature Society about this potential change from their proposal. Ellen suggested that the Kiosk be connected with a trail in the park.

1. Youth in Action – Napolean B. Morris – Headstone Replacement – no update was available. Kathy asked if historic status had been applied for, Kyle said that he would check with Kylie Christanell.
2. Naming Policy update – Kyle will further discuss with City Attorney Hessel the Committee’s interest in adopting a naming policy. The Committee agreed that the City Council would have final say on the naming of any park.

Kathy suggested that a statement about renaming could be addressed in Parks Policy, using wording recommended in the proposed naming policy - “Renaming of parks or facilities should be prohibited unless extraordinary circumstances prevail.”

1. Volunteer recognition – Kathy recommended that plaque style awarded by Urban Forestry Commission be utilized for the Volunteer Award. Kathy asked if Kylie could be involved in the wording on the Volunteer Award plaque. Ellen suggested that the presentation of the plaque could be done at a Park Board meeting and followed by a meal with the awardee at a local restaurant.

IV. New Business

1. Other matters – Kyle informed the committee that he has temporarily taken the Legacy program off the website, so that it could be revamped and he is working to streamline the process. He said it might work out better if applications are accepted from Oct. 15 – June 1st, then installed after that time. He also recommends possibly increasing the bench cost, since $2000 barely covers the bench & installation.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Submitted by Kathy Paulsen