**Park Board Partnership Subcommittee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, September 9, 2021, 7:15 p.m.**

**Held via Zoom, Virtual format**

**111 S. Geyer Road**

**Kirkwood, MO 63122**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Kathy Paulsen (Chair), Park Board members Jordan Weinke, Matt Cook, and Parks and Recreation Director Kyle Henke. Alvin Reid was absent.

1. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
	1. No update was given.
2. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
	1. Alphonse Smith Memorial Update: No update was given.
	2. Continue Legacy Program Discussion

Kathy presented information to the committee in email prior to the meeting - “Creating Opportunities for Legacy Donors” (Attached) and “What are the “norms” for Memorial Benches in our Area”. (Attached) Reviewing the norms, Kathy found that most communities have a guarantee stated in their brochure; the guarantee is not considered a “term” or a limit; and no communities have been identified which would prohibit a current donor from purchasing a new bench.

Kyle Henke proposed that the bench guarantee correspond to the manufacturer’s warranty. Kirkwood Parks & Recreation would maintain or replace the original item if it is faulty or damaged, during the manufacturer’s warranty. Since there are many different manufacturers of benches, this would be a policy that would endure changes in vendors. If the bench fails or becomes unsafe, it would be removed. The original applicant would be asked if they want to replace the bench, for an additional donation. This would not be a forever situation because the applicant would need to be reachable and to qualify as the “original applicant”.

Matt asked to clarify the need for replacement. Kyle suggested that a quantitative scale of 1-3 could be used with 1 = bad condition, ranging to 3 = good condition. The benches would be inspected in a manner consistent with playground inspections.

Matt suggested a ten year right of renewal option, with a cost of $2000 for each 10 year period. Kathy objected to the proposed cost and multiple payments for the same bench; she also objected to removing benches before they are deteriorated. Matt also suggested creating a plaque wall in the community center to recognize the discontinued memorials. Kyle said this could be cumbersome and would instead suggest that a memorial brick could be installed in an existing brick memorial plaza

Jordan considers the current program to be exclusionary and should not suggest ownership. Regarding memorial benches dedicated to a deceased person, Jordan objects to renewal of the bench when it fails. Jordan wants the benches to not be permanent memorials and suggested that the Memorial Bench program is a monetary donation to parks.

The sub-committee recommendation moving forward is that the benches remain as Memorial Benches until the bench is deteriorated. Jordan & Matt indicated support. Alvin was absent. Kathy agreed, with reservations. Kyle stated a preference for offering renewal by contacting the “original applicant”.

Kathy proposes that the Legacy program be expanded so other options become available to citizens. This will be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

Jordan offered to revise the proposed Greentree legacy Program Recommendations

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
	1. None
2. **ADJOURNMENT** – Committee adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Attached:

Greentree Legacy Program Recommendations 8-7-21. (Jordan Weinke)

Creating Opportunities For Legacy Donors (Kathy Paulsen)

What are the ‘norms’ for Memorial Benches in our Area (Kathy Paulsen)

Submitted by Kathy Paulsen