

RECREATION COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chairman Rick Rettig. Committee members present were Tom Mackin, Jim Matuszak and Rick Rettig. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, Jon Eckel, Service Director, and Brody Walters, Planning and Zoning Administrator.

CITIZENS CONCERNS

Dick Currie and Dick Kudner were present to check on the status of biking facilities in the City. Mr. Currie said he would like to see bike borders along Louisiana, Indiana and South Boundary. He suggested starting with South Boundary. He said the street is 40' wide and the driving lanes could be reduced from 12' to 10'. Ms. Kabat stated that there are no funds in the budget for bike lanes or bike borders. Mr. Currie said that research has shown that biking in the streets is safest. Ms. Kabat said she would be more than happy to take the information and meet with Mr. Currie, but the Mayor is not interested in reducing the width of the lanes from 12' to 10' and bike lanes are not a priority of the Mayor at this time. Mr. Rettig stated that this issue would be better suited for the Service-Safety Committee since it involves roadways. Mr. Mackin said that he does not believe the junior high kids would use the bike path, but he is in favor of the construction of multi-use paths as new roads are constructed. Mr. Rettig said that he also supports multi-use paths for kids to be able to get around town.

RIVERFRONT GOALS

Ms. Kabat distributed to the Committee a summary of the goals and priorities for the riverfront compiled from the executive summaries of the P3 and Riverfront Charrette, the Administration, City Council, and the two public open houses that were held. A summary of the data collected from the open houses was also provided. Ms. Kabat said the goal is for the Committee to review the information and let Mr. Walters know if there are additional priorities that should be added, and to solidify the priorities and agree upon a set of parameters to take to a third party to help craft options and ideas to bring back to the Committee. Mr. Rettig said it is his understanding that the riverwalk is a separate issue. Ms. Kabat explained that in the past City Council voted to move forward with a path and those funds will be available in the future. She said the issue to be resolved regarding the path is what material to use and once the material is chosen, we will have to go out to design. Mr. Rettig stated that there is a lot of information to digest, and the Committee will need some time to read it all.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Rettig
Chairman, Recreation Committee

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.