

## **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**JULY 14, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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**

Dennis Walton, 832 Streamview Drive, expressed concern about a strip of land behind his residence that is part of Bicentennial Park but has not been incorporated into the park. He said that he is not just looking for it to be mowed, he would like it to become part of the park. He said that according to the master plan for Bicentennial Park it shows mounding and he was told three years ago that it would be tiled. Mr. Mackin asked how big this area is. Mr. Walton said it is about a hundred foot strip. Mr. Eckel said that he visited the site and it is low and holds water. He has asked Parks Superintendent Greg Kuhr to get an estimate to tile the field, but those companies are all running behind because of the weather. Mr. Eckel said that past quotes were around \$15,000. He said that he hopes to get the tiling and installation of a couple of catch basins into the 2016 budget. Mr. Rettig said that Mr. Walton's concerns have allowed this to rise to the surface and although he can't make any promises, his concerns are duly noted.

### **RIVERSIDE PARK**

Mr. Walters stated that there are two items for the Committee's consideration. The first item is a contract with TetraTech for design engineering for Phase 2 of the multi-use path along the riverfront in the amount of \$40,000. This portion of the path includes the area from Hood Park at the base of Louisiana Avenue west to the edge of Riverside Park. Mr. Walters distributed information regarding TetraTech's qualifications, and Andy Langenderfer of TetraTech was present to answer any questions the Committee had. Ms. Kabat said that TetraTech has previously done similar work for the City including the first phase of the path. Mr. Mackin asked if the Administration feels comfortable moving forward without getting other proposals. Ms. Kabat said that they are comfortable with moving forward based on previous work done by TetraTech.

Mr. Mackin clarified that this is a long standing plan and we are just moving up the process. Ms. Kabat said that the City was previously approved for TMACOG funds to be paid in fiscal year 2019 but the money has become available earlier because other jurisdictions are not ready to go with their projects. Mr. Rettig asked what material will be used on the path. Mr. Walters said that is yet to be determined and that it has to be bid as asphalt but we can bid another material as an alternate. TMACOG will pay for 80% of asphalt. Mr. Matuszak asked when the funds will be available. Ms. Kabat said funds will be available in the State's fiscal year 2016 which begins in July, 2016.

The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval to hire TetraTech for the design engineering of Phase 2 of the multi-use path along the riverfront.

The second request to be considered by the Committee was to hire the Edge Group for design engineering services for Riverside Park improvements in an amount not to exceed \$110,000. Mr. Walters distributed information regarding the Edge Group's qualifications. Tim Bockbrader of the Edge Group was present and gave a short presentation about their company. Mr. Rettig asked when they would be reaching out to groups like the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Bockbrader said that the work they would be doing is above the high water mark so there is no need to reach out to the Army Corps of Engineers but they will work with Tetra Tech about the path. He added that because of the grant application process they already have approval from the Historical Preservation office. Ms. Kabat said that the Administration will take the plan to the Historic Landmarks Commission and the Planning Commission. She added that Mannik and Smith has recommended that we have an archaeologist on site as a precautionary measure during construction. Mr. Matuszak said that he has no concerns about their qualifications; his concern is with the City's and the Committee's involvement in the process. He said it sounds like the Edge Group will be choosing the materials which sounds backwards to him. Mr. Walters said that Mr. Bockbrader will be getting guidance from the Administration. Mr. Mackin added that Mr. Bockbrader has been at the meetings and has heard the concerns of the Committee and the residents.

There were several citizens present who expressed their concerns about issues with the Riverside Park improvements, but none of the comments were in relation to the Edge Group's qualifications. Several citizen comments referenced sewer overflows. Ms. Kabat said that the HSPU Committee will be looking at those issues, but some issues cannot be mitigated 100%, especially with ten inches of rain including ground saturation within a couple of weeks.

The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of an agreement with the Edge Group for design engineering services for Riverside Park improvements in an amount not to exceed \$110,000.

Jon Orser, 125 E. Front Street, asked for an approximate date when a hard copy will be ready to go to the Historic Landmarks Commission, Planning Commission and EPA. Ms. Kabat said that if everything goes according to plan, the initial phase of design development should take two months and part of that is dealing with obtaining some of those approvals, but there is no hard and fast date.

#### RENAMING RIVERSIDE PARK

Mr. Rettig said that the historical nature of Perrysburg is one reason he chose to live here. He said however, that there is no historical significance to the name Riverside Park like there is for Hood Park or Orleans Park. He suggested that the name of the park be changed to Veterans' Memorial Park. He said the park already has two memorials, and it could be enriched with placards about history. He said that he proposed the idea at a PRAC meeting and they were open to the idea.

Chip Pflleghaar, 401 W. Front St., asked if it would be more prudent to name it after someone from the Civil War.

Susan Berry, 341 W. Front St., said we should have a contest to name it which would encourage people to look into history.

Linda Judson, 147 W. Second St., said if we change the name it may change the design so we would need to decide now.

Mr. Mackin and Mr. Matuszak said that they would like more time to think about it and get public input so they recommended that the issue be tabled.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Rettig  
Chairman, Recreation Committee

***Next meeting: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.***