

GERMANTOWN PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2012

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Germantown Parks and Recreation Commission for March 22, 2012 took place at Germantown Parks and Recreation, 2276 West Street.

PRESENT:

Kevin Young
Mike Agee
Becky Zaworotko
Bill Lansden
Rodney Strop
Mary Anne Gibson
Pam Beasley, Director of Parks and Recreation
Andrew Wilensky
Hale Barclay, Liaison

ABSENT:

Mike Palazzolo, Alderman
James Wilson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2012

There were corrections noted.

It was moved by Mr. Rodney Strop, seconded by Mr. Bill Lansden to approve the minutes of February 23, 2012 with said changes.

Young – yes; Agee – yes; Zaworotko – yes, Lansden – yes, Strop – Yes,

RECREATION UPDATE

Ms. Natalie Ruffin gave a brief update on the recreation programs including the annual Germantown Half Marathon and Mayor's Cup 5K. There was also mention of the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt. Ms. Ruffin noted all sports are currently in season and went over the numbers of participants in the different leagues.

BOBBY LANIER FARM PARK PROJECT

Ms. Pam Beasley provided an update on the Bobby Lanier Farm Park project. Phase I of the project will be known as the "Bobby Lanier Park Community Gardens." The construction will include development of an emergency access road, installation of the water system service to the site, raised garden beds, garden walkways/paths, and fencing/gate structures to secure the garden.

Ms. Beasley reported on the bids that came in for the project. There was a base bid accepted that included the construction of the main emergency access road and the water service to the site.

Ms. Beasley will go before the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on Monday night asking for approval of the construction contract. Upon approval, construction will begin the second week of April. The Community Garden will begin planting at that same time. The hope is to open the project toward the end of June. The official opening date will not be announced at this point. Staff and interns will be hired prior to July 1, 2012. Handouts were given to the Commission members regarding the Community Garden.

It was moved by Mr. Bill Lansden, seconded by Mr. Rodney Strop to recommend the approval of the Phase I development contract for the new Bobby Lanier Farm Park with Barnes and Brower, Inc. to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Young – yes; Agee – yes; Zaworotko – yes, Lansden – yes, Strop – Yes.

FEE RECOMMENDATIONS – GBL, COMMUNITY GARDENS AND BOBBY LANIER FARM PARK PROGRAMS FOR SUMMER 2012

The Germantown Baseball League is requesting a fee increase to support their new business plan. The new fees for the Bobby Lanier Farm Park were presented for review. Ms. Beasley discussed the process of changing/adding fees. Fees were discussed for the Community Garden, special group programs, and adult education classes. Ms. Beasley asked for a deferment of action regarding the Germantown Baseball League.

It was moved by Ms. Rebecca Zaworotko, seconded by Mr. Mike Agee to recommend approval to the BMA for the fee structure for the Bobby Lanier Farm Park.

Young – yes; Agee – yes; Gibson – yes, Zaworotko – yes, Lansden – yes, Strop – Yes.

FINAL FY13 CIP PROJECTS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC)

Ms. Beasley reported on the Parks and Recreation department's CIP budget for FY13. Based on the Commission's work session in January and current needs identified by staff, park capital improvements projects, infrastructure replacements/repairs and program changes, requests were submitted to the City Administration for consideration in the FY13 funding plan on February 10, 2012. The two largest projects included in the budget are the Bobby Lanier Farm Park at \$1,400,000.00 and the skate park restoration at \$220,000.00. One large project that has been pushed to FY14 is the Greenway project.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Rodney Strop reported on the Veteran's Recognition Committee. He thanked the Commission for its help in getting a location site for the memorial and gave an update on the different projects the Committee is working on. Mr. Strop also gave an update on last Tree Board meeting where the Board reviewed the orchard at the Bobby Lanier Farm Park. Mr. Mike Agee reported on the Youth Sports Alliance. Ms. Natalie Ruffin met with Mr. Chris Bartels regarding youth soccer. One of his concerns is the ability for the soccer program to grow and expand. Through the Youth Sports Alliance a discussion needs to be held on where to acquire land in Germantown for the future of the sports and athletic programs. Mrs. Mary Anne Gibson updated on the Bobby Lanier Farm Park Advisory Group. The group meets the first and third Thursday of each month. The Community Garden Association will be forthcoming. Ms. Natalie Ruffin reported that the Special Needs Recreation Task Force has not met since the New Year. Ms. Pam Beasley submitted a part-time position in the upcoming budget for FY13 to hire an individual to assist with management of the program, but the budget did not get approved.

Mr. Kevin Young noted the youth liaison for the Parks and Recreation would be graduating this year and wanted to know the procedure for replacement of that position. Ms. Pam Beasley reported the last two liaisons were appointed by the Alderman liaison, Alderman Mike Palazzolo.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.