

**Minutes
Recreation Committee
March 1, 2011
6:00 PM
1st committee**

Members present were Chairwoman Gettys, Committee members Bob Cook and James Kennedy. Van Brannon, Recreation Director and City Administrator Trey Eubanks were also present.

1. Call to order.- Chairwoman Gettys
2. Public comment.- None
3. Reading and approval of minutes.

Councilman Kennedy made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Cook seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

4. Reports or communications from city officers.

The road race is March 12th. A letter is going to go out to the businesses along Butler that will be impacted. Rodney Neely and Coach Neely approached us about a 5 on 5 basketball tournament. Some NBA stars will be in town to promote this. This will be like the Kevin Garnett 5 on 5 that we had several years ago. Josh Howard and Trevor Booker of the Washington Wizards wanted to bring this to Mauldin and the proceeds will go to the Josh Howard foundation. This will be an annual event in June to help showcase the City of Mauldin. The Police Chief will be included in all the planning stages.

Coach Neely said he appreciates this opportunity and he met with OT, who is the owner of the management firm that manages several NBA players. OT is from Mauldin as well as Coach Neely. A meet and greet with the sponsors and dignitaries will be held before the event. Councilman Cook said he thinks this is a great idea and there will be an overflow crowd. If we want to have it yearly, we need to be able to accommodate a crowd. The event will be held at Springfield Park on the Kevin Garnett court. The chamber will help advertise the event. Councilman Kennedy asked what the Josh Howard foundation does. The foundation pays for basketball camp for kids that are interested. It is open to everyone.

5. Unfinished business.
 - a. Budget Review
6. New business
 - a. Alcohol Request

Councilman Kennedy made a motion to move this to full council with Councilman Cook seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

b. Cultural Center landscape plan implementation

Council approved the final design of the landscape plan last week. Staff was directed to work with the engineer and come up with recommendations on implementing phase one of the design. Tom Keith with Arbor Engineering was present to talk on the project. The goal is to have all questions answered and council comfortable with the scope of phase one. Mr. Keith said that key elements have been prioritized and that comprises phase one. The parking area is a focal point. It is the first impression of the project. The second is the walking trail and creating a loop that takes in part of the memorial walk. The amphitheatre is getting a lot of use and will also be a highly visible area. Some estimates were presented. The first was for demolition. The second is fine grading for the parking area and for the walking trail. Curb and gutter, as well as paving estimates were also shown. Speed humps have been mentioned. Two of them will be installed- one will be at the first entrance and the second one is across from the veteran's memorial.

Boulders are almost two tons. They are large and can be expensive. We will need about 100 boulders- you can bring in 4 or 5 on a truck, so it will need a lot of trips to deliver them. The timber bridge is a walkway and will allow for Cushman carts to move through the park for maintenance. It will be a heavier duty bridge. The stage will be rebuilt and steps added and will have an elevated front. Councilman Cook said that when the stage was built, Council said that we wouldn't build another stage. It would be incorporated into the design. They said that was right. Council talked about not undoing what was built. Adding onto it would be permissible. They will check the minutes to see what was said regarding the stage. Mr. Keith said the stage will be looked at.

The landscaping is a lump sum item. The soil that is at the cultural center now is rough and will be hard to grow anything. Sod is needed.

Duke Energy fixtures will be used. This is consistent with the type of lightning that is planned for the 276 project. You pay a lease rate for the fixtures. These poles are like what is at Legacy Park. They are acorn style to be consistent with what we have along the road. You can pay a decorative fixture cost monthly or pay up front for decorative and then pay the standard rate per month. Greg Fincher will be involved in this design process. There is power to the stage already that may reduce the electrical costs.

Tom Keith mentioned tree preservation. We will be able to do the sidewalk over the roots. Councilman Black is concerned about damage to the roots. Mr. Keith said he has done this plenty of times and the trees will survive. Councilman Black asked about the boulders. He asked if we could have concrete benches with river rock instead of the boulders to save money. Mr. Keith said the thickness would be a difference. If you have the same width out of block and stone it would be about the same price. Mr. Keith said the boulders convey a more informal feel.

Councilman Black then asked about irrigation. Mr. Keith said that would be in the spec to make sure the trees and plants are watered.

Councilman Black asked about wheelchair accessibility. Mr. Keith said there would be handicapped parking. The ramp would be used at the serenity garden for phase 1. The entire park will be ADA accessible.

Councilman Black asked about the little brick building that does have power in there now that is still available. It feeds part of the cultural center. Can this building still be used? Mr. Keith said it would be adjacent to the picnic shelter and will be used. It will be incorporated into that building.

Councilman Cook made a motion to send this to full council. Councilman Kennedy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous (3-0).

7. Public comment.

Leo Joyce: Two things. Speed humps- the ones at Barnes and Noble do look nice. The second thing, the grass. Wouldn't it be smart to go to Clemson or a sod company and find out what kind of sod to put in and then advertise that this is the type of sod we are using?

8. Committee concerns.

9. Adjournment.- Chairwoman Gettys adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Miller

Municipal Clerk