

TOWN OF COLLIERVILLE
Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Arts Advisory Board
September 14, 2021 – 5:30pm
Agenda

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Rhylander

APPROVE AGENDA Chairman Rhylander

REVIEW / APPROVE – July 13, 2021 Minutes Chairman Rhylander

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ITEMS:

1. Shelby Drive Property Greg Clark
Conceptual Plan

2. 2021/22 Youth Basketball Preview. Greg Clark

3. 2020 LPRF Grant Update Greg Clark

DIRECTORS REPORT Greg Clark

OTHER BUSINESS Chairman Rhylander

ADJOURN: Next Meeting – October 12th



COLLIERVILLE
PARKS

Parks Advisory Board Meeting – September 14, 2021

Members Present: Kal Bhavaraju, Joe Ennis, Maureen Fraser, Micah Miller, Jennifer Moerbe, Dave Rhylander, Kathy Thiele

Members Absent: Corrine Derenburger, Jimmy Turner

Staff Present: Greg Clark, Tress Shields

Guest(s) Present: Blair Parker

Dave Rhylander called the meeting to order at 5:28 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Kal Bhavaraju made a motion to approve the agenda. Jennifer Moerbe seconded the motion. The board approved the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Kal Bhavaraju made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2021 meeting. Micah Miller seconded the motion. The board approved the minutes.

Public Comments

NONE

Items

1. Shelby Drive Property – Greg Clark introduced Blair Parker with Blair Parker Design, a landscape architecture firm. He pointed out that Blair was the main landscape architect and designer for Tom Brooks Park, and he has completed several projects for the parks department and the Town. Greg stated that he contacted Blair a while back and told him that we recently acquired property on Shelby Drive and wanted to look at different concepts. Blair started working with the fire department and the parks staff to come up with the conceptual plan that he is presenting tonight. Greg informed that we will not vote tonight to adopt the plan; he basically wants to get feedback from the board about the plan.

Blair Parker thanked Greg Clark and the board members. He explained that he was presenting a concept; for now it is called Shelby Drive Community Park. He noted that everything on the plan can change. The property is across from

Collierville High School and US 385. The fire department has acquired a 300 x 300 parcel of land on the east side of the property. They are in the process of pricing for earth work and architectural plans. Some components on this plan include tennis, pickleball, and volleyball facilities, a trail system, parking areas, and a multipurpose field which separates the fire house from the park itself. The assumption is that all the components will have lighting for nighttime use.

Blair Parker stated that he and his team wanted to be sensitive to the fact that there is a subdivision on the west side. Then, he alluded to a “blue blob” on the plan which is storm water that comes through the area. The primary intent for it is to get dirt out of it to lift the other areas so that during big storm events nothing goes under water. They are going to take forty plus thousand yards of dirt from that section over to the fire station because they need dirt. The remainder would go to our park. The idea is to have a trail around that area.

Blair Parker discussed other sections on the conceptual plan. The plan includes tennis and pickleball courts together. In between the tennis courts and pickleball courts, there is a plaza system or trail system (labeled as “Court Commons Plaza”). The volleyball courts would also lead to that area. Blair suggested that we could do a lot with the commons area such as put a gazebo there and turn it into a gathering place. He also expressed that there are many things that we can do with or around the lake region.

There was a question about restrooms. Greg Clark answered that they envision restrooms in the commons/plaza area.

Greg Clark explained that the reason the fire station is where it is on this plan is because it lines up with another drive coming out of the high school. It is the absolute lowest part of the property and requires 44,000 cubic yards of dirt. He informed that Chief Billings contacted him this morning about possibly putting the fire station at the Shelby Drive practice facility which is about a half mile back to the west of this property. It would not require dirt work at that facility. If we work out a deal with them for that property, this would open up more options for us to put a Cricket field or other athletic fields in that space.

Greg Clark asserted that due to hearing so much about the increased popularity of pickleball, he figured that if we build a 16 court complex we could potentially solicit state, regional, and national tournaments. This would help with our tourism initiatives. He then told the board members that if they want something that is not on this plan to please let him know. Kal Bhavaraju inquired about indoor tennis and pickleball facilities. Greg replied that we could make some of these courts indoors if that is desired. Joe Ennis asked about a concession area or building.

Greg answered that we have a food truck court on the plan. He said that it is up to this group to determine if we should have some type of official club house or pro shop. If we want to keep it an open air area or plaza type, we could bring in things onsite as needed.

Greg Clark clarified that this is a really broad concept that we can narrow down as funding becomes available. Maureen Fraser stated that the plan looks good. She also mentioned that shade is important, so the plan should include some type of shade structure such as a gazebo or pavilion. The board members discussed the types of fields that could go in at the multipurpose field space. Greg declared that we can make those decisions once we determine our greatest needs at the time. He added that we will likely know more about what the fire department will do in the next few months.

Greg Clark advised the board members to take this plan and show it to family, friends, etc. and get some comments from them and let us know what they think. He thanked Blair Parker for coming and presenting the plan. Blair thanked the board. The board members thanked Blair.

2. 2021-22 Youth Basketball – Greg Clark pointed out that we are in the same boat that we were in last September. As of now, we are planning to proceed with the registration unless we get a different recommendation from this board. We have contacted the Collierville elementary schools about using their gyms. Greg said that we have to have their gyms in order to provide the program as usual. Typically, we use five of the six elementary school gymnasiums. If we are denied use, we will have to limit our registration numbers. We should know something by the end of the week. The board members suggested that we carry on with basketball registration. Greg replied that we will move forward with it.
3. 2020 LPRF Grant Update – Greg Clark announced that he received a notice from the State of Tennessee regarding setting up official grant presentations to all recipients. Our presentation is scheduled Wednesday, October 13th at 11 a.m. onsite at Hinton Park. We will invite Senator Rose, Representative Vaughan, and the BMA. Joe Ennis proposed inviting the Hinton Family.

Director's Report

Greg Clark reported that he is going out of town next week. He will attend the National Recreation and Parks Association Conference in Nashville. Youth fall sports are in full

swing and going well. We had slight increases in our numbers this year. We do not have Collierville Soccer's numbers yet.

Greg Clark announced that Lydia Warren, director of Morton Museum, has resigned. She accepted a position at the University of Memphis. The position is currently open, and we are looking to fill it as quickly as possible.

Greg Clark conveyed that an issue we may have coming up before the board is with the cost and availability of fireworks. This year, we finished our fifth year of the contract with the company (Pyros) that provides our fireworks, so we have to rebid them. Fireworks come from China. They are very difficult to acquire and are expected to have a significant increase in cost. It might become an issue for us. Joe Ennis mentioned that there is a company that does nighttime shows with hundreds of lit drones and have a lot of art in the sky. Greg told him to send him information on that. He informed that Pyros likely has enough shells for 2022, but they are likely to cost much more.

Greg Clark reported that the staff has requested a BMA work session at the next meeting to finalize our Christmas calendar/dates. Unless we are told something different, we will proceed with a full tree lighting and parade.

Greg Clark asked Kathy Thiel if she had anything from the arts council. She announced that their fundraiser Arts in the Alley is October 7th at 6:30 p.m. Kevin and Bethany Paige are performing. She has tickets if anyone is interested and acknowledged that it is a really fun event. The next production at the Harrell Theatre is The Foreigner in February 2022.

There was no other business. Micah Miller made a motion to adjourn. Kal Bhavaraju seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.