

Bartlet Mall Commission Meeting
August 8, 2012

Date: August 8, 2012

Time: 6:30-8:15 PM

Location: City Hall 2nd Floor Auditorium

Attending: Sadie Cathcart, Ellen Hanick, George Masterson, Andrew Port, Andrew Simpson, Walt Thompson

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Approval of minutes of last meeting
3. Old Business
4. Results since last meeting
 - Fountain update
 - Frog Pond update including aeration of Frog Pond to reduce algae
 - Weed control on walkways
 - Phragmite Control
 - Bench refinishing
 - Facebook and website updates
5. New Business
 - Process for permits to use for the Bartlet Mall
 - Adding the Bartlet Mall to the Parks' Permit page on the website
6. Open discussion

Notes

Approval of minutes of last meeting:

- Minutes approved from this, and the previous meeting

Results from last Meeting:

Fountain Update

- The fountain is working, all because of John Kelly and Kim Noble- president of water structures
 - one full day of a plumber was donated in the interest of making the fountain functional again
 - gave us a three prong outlet shore, will need to be cleaned every so often
- Price for lights on the fountain- off grid solar lighting (LED lights)

Frog Pond Update

- In the past, the pond has been treated with chemicals that kill frogs. To improve the water quality, the plan will be to
 - install aerator bubbler diffusers, a small compressor near the air conditioner vent
 - noise would not be an issue
 - need funds to support the purchase
- George Masterson suggests that to improve the quality of water, rocks, lily pads, cattails, reduce the pesticides in the water and reduce the fecal count if it is high
- The high school will work to collect several data points

- Phosphates and nitrates? PH?-buffered by the possibility of plantings
- One obstacle in terms of water quality is the down spill leaking straight into the pond
- Dog waste isn't a significant concern, nor is feeding the ducks, although these are issues worth considering in the water treatment process
- Mall is 2.2 acres, 4-6 feet deep, lots of muck at the bottom
- Want to look at the stability of the two dishes in the fountain
- According to John Kelly and Steve Fram, not long ago the pond was pumped clean and scraped
- High school will provide data for us beginning in September.
- appeal to NEF for better testing equipment

Weed control on walkways

- Walt and Andy have been using a weed burner to get to the bottom of the weeds
- DPS folks use "round up"

Bench Refinishing

- Throughout town, people can pay \$1500 to donate a bench. At the Mall there are only a couple benches with placards
- could we use bench donation funds to re-stain benches?
- benches in Market Square were just stained, Rotary Club supplied the stain, city intern did the work
- Some sanding will be needed in redoing the benches at the Mall

Facebook and website updates

- Mayor has asked City Council for supplemental city budget request for website maintenance, hopefully there will be money appropriated
- hopefully this will contribute to improvement of the quality of the Mall page
- Sadie will contact Andy Port about updating the Mall website with facebook link and new pictures

New Business:

Process for permits to use for the Bartlet Mall

- Ovarian cancer event coming up in September, Ellen may be available to take picture

Open Discussion:

- Walt has drafted a thorough list of potential projects and approximate costs, and we will be ready to begin fundraising soon. Some projects include: plantings at the bottom of ramp, a permanent gazebo for bands and events at the park, a permanent dock, stain for the benches, and more.
- Ellen and Sadie will approach groups that use the playground about what they would like to see improved about the equipment
- Ellen suggests we seek guidance from those involved with News and Views group in town- group of seniors who come together and have created a charity and have had highly successful fundraising endeavors
- Seek advice from previous commissioners

To Do (Before Next Meeting):

- Andy: continue handling permit requests, contact Lisé in regards to having permit requests forwarded to the commission

- Walt: continue determining costs for upcoming projects related to the park
- Sadie: type minutes from last meeting, work with Ellen on potential changes to playground
- Ellen: work with Sadie towards determining strengths and weaknesses of the playground

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 20, 2012

6:30 PM

Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall