

GREEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Monday, March 7, 2016
Location: Webster Groves Recreation Complex
Called To Order: 7:40 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:50 p.m.
Next Meeting Date: Monday, April 4, 2016

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT
Anne Tolan, Council Liaison		X
Annie Russell	X	
Bill Hoss	X	
Ginger Garrett	X	
Glen Horton	X	
Janis Schweitzer	X	
Joanne Fogarty		X
Peg Pedersen	X	
Richard Fitzgerald	X	
Scott Davis, Staff Liaison	X	
Tessa Wasserman	X	

Also present: Staff member Michelle Clemens
 Visitor: Shawnell Faber, previous Park Manager

Visitor Remarks:

Previous Park Manager Shawnell Faber was in attendance to speak with the GSAC regarding her recent resignation from employment with the City to accept a position with Forest Park Forever. She has turned over her records to Scott Davis, Director of Parks & Recreation, who will be attending future meetings as needed until her replacement can be hired. The GSAC thanked her for her many years of service with the City and great projects she was involved in.

It was mentioned that the recent Honeysuckle Sweep held at Deer Creek Park went very well and that Park Horticulturist Yvonne Steingrubby was great to work with.

GSAC members were introduced to Parks & Recreation Director, Scott Davis.

Approval of Minutes: The February meeting minutes were approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS:

Farmers Market Booth:

Tessa Wasserman has been in contact with the Market Manager and our booth reservations have been confirmed for the Farmers Market. The GSAC will have a booth on the second Thursday in May, June, July and October. Setup begins at 2:30 p.m. and the event ends at 6:30 p.m. Topics will be as follows: Monarch Butterflies in May (Tessa & Annie), Trees of Distinction and gardens in June (Joanne & Ginger), Invasive Species in July (Glen) and Composting in October (Janis). The other GSAC members will help on those days as well.

Tessa will bring something from the Tabletop Trees workshop she recently attended to include on the information table. Glen will bring photos of the various stages of honeysuckle growth to educate people on how to identify the plant.

Trees of Distinction:

Joanne Fogarty was not in attendance for this meeting so voting for this year's awardee(s) was postponed. A list of nominated trees was distributed for reference. GSAC members were encouraged to go by and look at each tree so they can vote at the next meeting. Even if a tree

owner has not yet been contacted, the tree can still be selected. If it is selected, we will then contact the owner for permission to recognize the tree.

Printing costs for a revised Trees of Distinction Brochure are: \$500 for 24 pages, \$560 for 28 pages. There is currently \$300 in the City budget for GSAC purposes. The next budget year (beginning July 1st) will have an additional \$300. The current funds can be encumbered over to the new budget year so there will be \$600 then available for reprinting. A motion was made and all were in favor of having 100 copies printed after July 1st with the newest awardees added in. It was noted that this brochure is also available on the City's website. Richard Fitzgerald will contact Tracey Driscoll to see if there are any additional charges we should be aware of before we order more copies (change charges, etc.) Tessa can email her photos of the newest awardees.

Arbor Day Planning:

Discussion was continued from the last meeting regarding the annual Arbor Day event, which will be held at Southwest Park on Wednesday, May 4th. Scott Davis will take care of the items Shawnell Faber was going to do.

Tessa will bring something from the Tabletop Trees workshop to include on the information table. She has been working on finding a tree promotion activity that would interest kids to participate in, something other than the usual tree poster or poetry that has been done in the past. After discussion, it was agreed a good project would be for kids to submit a photo of themselves with a tree. There will be two categories: Me & A Tree category and Artistic Tree category. Tessa will organize the details and get the information out to the schools. Scott can make a poster of all of the submissions for display during the Arbor Day event. Scott will also contact Glen when the tree saplings arrive so he can protect the roots before they are given out.

Nominations for the Tree Steward Award were discussed. A motion was made to nominate Vaughn Meister for the award. A second motion was made to also nominate Shawnell Faber. A vote was taken and Vaughn Meister was selected for this year's award and Shawnell Faber will be the honoree next year. Annie will contact Vaughn to see if she will accept the nomination, give her Arbor Day event details so she can attend, etc. If she accepts, Richard will contact Vaughn to obtain her bio info for the award presentation.

NEW BUSINES: none

CHAIRMAN UPDATE: none

COUNCIL UPDATE: none

STAFF UPDATE: Scott Davis

Scott mentioned that he also serves as staff liaison to the Farmers Market Committee and they are also going to meet on Monday evenings now instead of Monday mornings. He will try to attend the next GSAC meeting, depending on how involved the Farmers Market meeting is.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

The GSAC members discussed the status of their commission and noted that their name includes the word "Advisory" but they have no real authority. They inquired as to if they could be involved in the hiring process for Shawnell's replacement, provide input, etc. They would like to be involved and meet the prospective candidates. They felt it would be nice to know what is going on in various parks before it becomes a fact. At this time Scott is not sure what the process will be for filling Shawnell's vacancy as it is still being reviewed by the City Manager, etc.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held at the Recreation Complex on Monday, April 4, 2016 at 7:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.