

Environment Committee Minutes Draft
April 27, 2016

In attendance: Steve Yetter (chair), Matt Hass, Amanda Yang, Stephen Mastey, Daniel Sarasti, Betty Wheeler, Michael Russelle. Guest: Margot Munson
Staff: Suyapa Miranda, Cailin Rogers

<p>Introductions and Agenda</p>	<p>Add Matt Hass, Stephen Mastey, and Amanda Yang to last month's minutes. Matt moved to adopt minutes with amendments. Amanda seconded. All voted in favor.</p>
<p>Kasota Ponds Wrap Up</p>	<p>Steve Yetter shared a write up discussing his experience and the experience of others in cleaning up Kasota Ponds. Council should look into whether there can be a video camera for surveillance in the area. Could metro metals have a check in station for people coming into the area? Or an area for people to dispose of their garbage? This is a nuisance crime, not one that endangers people. Getting a dumpster would be helpful. But who pays for the dumpsters? Organized or non organized trash collection plays a role here. Paying for individual pieces of garbage to be taken away means that there are issues with tossing things into Kasota Ponds. Why does the turn around need to exist at all? Can there be jersey barriers to take away the turn around? Environment committee should petition the city to take away the turn around. Michael moved to petition the city to install jersey barriers and take away the turn around to protect Kasota Ponds. Stephen seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion. We should reach out to all of the businesses in the area to explain our reasoning and the actions we are taking. Maybe should ask the city to do it for a year to see what outcomes come about. Can we get letters of support from places like NAPA?</p>
<p>GreenCorps Application</p>	<p>Anyone who has not submitted information should send it to Cailin.</p>
<p>Other agenda items</p>	<p>Amanda will have the group review what she has done soon because it is almost finished. It may or may not be able to go online. Msp products can be PDFs. Stephen Mastey generously volunteered his large format printer for up to 12x18 print outs.</p>
<p>Hampden Park Update</p>	<p>no entry dig in this version of the plan at Bayless and Hampden. This is probably a good thing. This plan is also within budget, the other plan was \$35k over budget. The new plan also includes stock benches not curved benches. There arose problematic trees that will need to be</p>

removed.

There are some exposition changes in getting native planting species in the park, including the closest to native serviceberry bush.

There will be changes in mulch from the plans to natural mulch without dye. Dorfbush honeysuckle will get added. A similar flower planting mix to what went into the Raymond Ave. median will go into the park as well.

There are a few issues still remaining with the park plans.

Is there an opportunity to have a dialogue with the artist about the sort of art we want to see?

Thyme, white clover, and another low growing plant (south heel) are proposed in the plans. Stephen suggested putting in some tulips or daffodils in the area instead. That won't add additional city maintenance. Sumac probably needs to be managed some.

The three park benches already there look better than the ones suggested in the plans. Stephen suggested doing fewer things with a higher quality level. Instead of taking out the three benches that are still in good shape, maybe add three new high quality benches. The Saints stadium has a bench similar to what we would be looking at.

There are options that exist for bus shelters. We will begin with asking the city to fund a bus shelter as a part of the plaza. But we can also talk to Jon Commers and/or local sponsors.

The letter needs to start with a thank you. We have a few things we want to continue to collaborate on.

Things we want to see:

1. Ability to talk with the artist about what we would like to see.
2. Do not seed clover, thyme, and self-heel. Instead, plant some bulbs picked in consult with the Council to put in the park around the sumac area and manage and maintain the sumac area.
3. Upgrade to three or so benches of higher quality (specifically the multiplicity product line from landscape forms) while retaining current benches. We would like to use high quality, uniform looking design pieces including a trash can and two bike parking areas made of the same high quality materials.
4. Solar powered charging area in the picnic space for phones and computers.
5. We would like to see small solar lights dotted along the walking path through the park in order to provide security and visibility along a highly used path for connectivity to important neighborhood features like the Hampden Park Co-op (again using the multiplicity product line).
6. A location set aside for a bike repair kiosk as well as the kiosk itself including a bike pump and tools to repair bikes per Dero's bike repair stations.
7. A bus shelter to provide shelter for transit riders in the area. At a minimum, there needs to be space left for the bus shelter on

	<p>park land so that if this budget does not support the shelter that the groundwork is laid to find funding elsewhere and put the shelter in later.</p> <p>8. A human and pet friendly water fountain.</p> <p>When there are alternatives between things, the community would like to have input. As a community committed to making this park a beautiful community space, we would like to have the opportunity to look for other funding sources for nicer products if there are budget shortfalls.</p> <p>Betty moved to put forth these items as Michael seconded. Unanimous.</p>
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