

Parks & Trees Commission Meeting 03.9.26

Present: Bob Williams, Barbara Cantey, Barb Willens, Rickey Macklin, Michael Eddings, Lisa Rienta, Elizabeth Shook

Meeting began at 5:30 pm

Barb Willens made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Barbara Cantey seconded the motion. All approved.

Following up on street light at East Hampton and Park Circle, Lisa provided background about when and why the street light was taken down. Lights from the mill illuminate that area. Small solar powered lights have been placed by Lisa and partner. A more permanent solution can be explored. Bob will schedule a neighborhood association meeting.

Around the table reporting on park visits. Donna visited Kirkwood Common looks very good after recent landscaping. Ten trees have been planted. Rectory Square was full of kids. Mother approached Donna to request a smaller piece of equipment for young kids and toddlers. Popular with homeschooled children. Need more sand for swing area.

Scott Park trees are still alive. Kat updated that well station will be capped and deteriorating structure and fencing will be removed. Armory Park had some litter

Monument Square was clean, a little debris. Hampton Park had a lot of litter, azaleas around electric circuit appear to be dead or dying.

Barb reported on Groom Park, looked OK for what it is. Edgewood Park isn't very recognizable, could use a better piece of playground equipment. At Kirkwood Park, appears to be a manhole cover is sinking in the street. Basketball court is in very bad shape and needs repairs, sealing.

Barbara reported that at Kendall Lake Park, more of that area is being used for teen partying. Previous issues have been resolved. Clubhouse needs some repair, TLC. It's being rented more and more often. Kendall Park and Burndale had no issues to report.

Bob stopped by Powder Magazine Park, stays picked up. Need to pick up limbs, treat for fire ants. Do the lights work inside the "fountain"? We will have to check. City Hall Park looks good. Broad Street Park is also clean and good.

Lisa visited CREP for the first time. Walking trail was boggy and wet. No pet waste bags. Active beaver dens in the lagoon area that appear to be flagged. Who is monitoring them? Do we have a naturalist that we can work with? Kat will reach out to Nature As Teacher/Clemson Extension. Question about a runoff into the lagoon that looks discolored. Bob hasn't had a chance to meet with Austin to discuss plan for a the pollinator garden at the CREP. Town Green looked good, asked about replacing those trees that had died and been removed in past 18 months. City Arena Park, all the trees looked good. Lots of litter, basketball court needs to be sealed. Asked about a light that goes on until 10 pm.

New business items, Rotary has plans to plant additional trees in honor of deceased members. Matt DeWitt told them to mark where they plan to plant. Barb suggested giving them some of the leftover trees from the Community Tree Giveaway.

Additional concerns, Lisa asked if the plan was to support Nature As Teacher for Earth Day celebration. Kat will forward email from Ashley at Nature As Teacher about the day's schedule. Celebration is on Saturday prior to Earth Day, which is Wednesday, April 22. Lisa suggested a proclamation from Council encouraging residents to do their part and clean their yard or in front of their homes, etc. Still need follow up about tree at Laurens Street by Austin Jenkins' home. Kat mentioned that clearing will take place at African American Cultural Center in near future.

Barb motioned, Barbara seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next meeting will be Monday, April 13 at 5:30 pm.