

**MINUTES OF THE GRANT PARK COMMITTEE MEETING OF October 19, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson, Charles Marsden called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. at City Hall, 101 Green Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call the following members were present: Jackson, Marsden, Moran, Robb and Smith

Absent: Greiner, Greibe, Holland, and Miller

**ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Chairperson Marsden announced that there was a quorum of Committee members present to conduct business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Minutes**

**Motion:** Jackson moved, seconded by Smith to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2018 meeting.

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call:** AYES: All Present

NAYS: None

Absent: Greiner, Greibe, Holland, and Miller

Motion Carried

**Meeting Notes:** There was no further discussion regarding the Meeting Notes of the September 21, 2018 meeting where no quorum was present.

**Public Comment:** None

**Discussion:** Inspirational Items discussed were the Oval Garden and the Van Buren Street entrance as well as the Johnson Street entrance. All were well received at Country Fair.

**Discussion:** Ken Robb indicated there was no update on the Fundraising Plan from The Galena Foundation. Plaques are being ordered through Vincent Monuments.

**Discussion:** Discussion took place regarding what we learned from the recent rainy Country Fair. Public Works will do repair work in the spring, allowing the park to continue to dry out. This will include fixing the lawn tractor rut down by the playground. A French drain will not work in the low spot by the pavilion. It is recommended that the city engineer look at adding a 4 or 6 inch storm drain line from the manhole to be installed in the low spot. Manhole could have an open bottom and function as a French drain when conditions allow. Beer wagon by Pavilion could be parked on handicap parking area in the future. Beer wagon up by Grant statue may have to remain in the park for a few days after the fair if wet conditions occur. Damage to Oval Garden can be

repaired yet this fall. New Johnson Street entrance worked well in the wet conditions. Vendors like the fact that there is no curb to climb. We will make improvements to Kohlsaas Bridge and Jackson Street entrances this fall. Any damage that occurs from this work would then be repaired in the spring.

**Discussion:** Marsden previously prepared a cashflow model to coincide with the fundraising plan. The cashflow model was recently updated to reflect the work done in the park this year.

With a lot of hard work, we brought the Oval Garden project in about \$10,000 over budget and the park entrances in about \$12,000 under budget.

The Oval Garden cost of \$69,845 include the contract with Louie's, the cost of plants and mulch, and a \$5,000 allowance for the plaques that are on order. Our original budget was \$60,000.

The cost of updating the park entrances includes the contract with Louie's for \$29,000 to do Van Buren, Johnson, and Kohlsaas Bridge entrances plus a \$2,000 estimate from Bobby Hahn to do Jackson for a total of \$29,000. Our original estimate was \$43,000.

The actual amount of fundraising money spent to date is therefore \$195,530. We have not completed the reconstruction of the planting beds including the Rock Garden, and we have not done the handicap access. These items would add \$10,000 to the amount and would approach the \$205,000 we have raised. Low maintenance plants on the embankment and the improved signage and wayfinding are in need of funding in order to be completed in 2019.

The basketball courts have come in at \$11,410. We had estimated \$27,500. Labor was donated by Louie's, and Bard discounted the price of concrete. Total cost of materials was approximately \$7,000. The cost of the basketball goals was \$4,409 for a grand total of \$11,410.

So far we have invested about \$226,840 in Grant Park with about \$35,000 remaining to be completed as part of this phase. This does not include the masterplan items of restoring Johnson Street or building the limestone terrace walls in the park. These are future projects.

**Discussion:** We are planning on doing Kohlsaas Bridge entrance after Country Fair based on quote from Bobby Hahn. Will also do Jackson Street entrance while we are at it since that was also scheduled for 2018 and funds should be available. David Greibe should get together with Bobby Hahn and lay them out.

**Discussion:** Discussion took place regarding the Short Term and Long Term Projects List:

- Maybe some ongoing tree work around Oval Garden and routine pruning by Public Works.
- Rock Garden was cleaned out by Paul Jackson. He was not able to use weed killer due to wet conditions, so no mulch has been installed. Plant it next spring according to David Greibe's plan.
- Urns by pavilion were planted prior to Country Fair
- Handicap Access will be deferred until next year.
- Marsden to investigate low maintenance plantings for embankment this winter with help from David Greibe and input from landscape architect doing the Stillman grounds. Stillman is proposed to be planted in a low height fescue like it was in the 1800's.
- Marsden and Moran to investigate grant moneys for the restoration of Johnson Street.
- Second year of plant maintenance contract with Pat Hahn will be expanded in 2019 to include the Oval Garden. Wisteria on the Pergola have been secured.
- Improved Signage and Wayfinding is scheduled for 2019. The committee discussed the new maps that have been installed around town, including at the Kohlsaas Bridge

entrance to the park. These maps could be the basis for signage and wayfinding in the park. This will be discussed further at future committee meetings. Marsden to discuss with David Greibe.

**Discussion:** Marketing and Communications items involving the centerpiece plaques were discussed.

**Committee Member Comments:** None.

**SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING** November 16, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. at City Hall. There will be no meeting on December 21, 2018.

Marsden will develop meeting schedule for 2019. Will discuss meeting time with David Greibe, perhaps making it earlier in the morning.

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** Smith moved, seconded by Jackson to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

**Discussion:** None

**Roll Call:** AYES: All Present

NAYS: None

Absent: Greiner, Greibe, Holland, and Miller

Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Marsden  
Chairperson