

Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee

Date: November 9, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm

Members Present Leonard Caillouet, Christopher Potts, Steven Scott, Seth Wood

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. Vice Chair Wood conducted the meeting upon Chair Scott's request.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Steven Scott made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Christopher Potts second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes - September 14, 2023

Leonard Caillouet made a motion to approve the September 14, 2023 minutes as presented; Christopher Potts second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

4. Cuscowilla Update - Jamie Bass

Jason Maurer reported that staff will be presenting an update on this year's Summer Camp to the Commission on Dec. 12. We had 520 registrations (approximately 65 campers per week). The Friends of Cuscowilla provided 12 camperships and the Children's Trust provided 43 scholarships. This year, we added educational field trips and swim lessons. Staff is looking at off-camp season programming to generate revenue including public swim lessons, climbing tower, low ropes, and archery. All renovations are complete and the final walk through is scheduled for later this month.

5. Parks Projects Update - Ed Williams

Veterans Memorial Park - The sitework package associated with the new inclusive playground was released for bids on 10/25. We had a pre-bid meeting this morning, and the bid opening is scheduled for the Wed before Thanksgiving (11/22). Procurement has indicated if all goes well it will likely be on the agenda of the first meeting in Jan (1/12) for approval. Meanwhile the playground equipment has already been produced and is sitting in the manufacturer's warehouse in TX for safekeeping.

Poe Springs - Two projects underway here, the first being replacing the existing restrooms and the second being improvements to the boat launch. Restrooms - Soil borings revealed a layer of organic material several feet down. This necessitated some additional foundation design which includes timber piles and concrete grade beams. JBPro is working with their structural consultant to finalize the construction documents so that we can put the project out for bids.

Cuscowilla Pavilion - Proposed construction of a 65'x120' red-iron, metal roofed pavilion over an existing asphalt sports court. Estimated construction cost of \$302,785. Our timeframe is to have this completed before summer camp 2024. We're working with Procurement to see if we can accept this quote as a piggyback off another county's RFP. If approved, it'll then go before the Board for project/budget approval.

E University Fishing Pier - Proposed construction of a new ±500' long fishing pier into Newnans Lake from the intersection of E University Ave & SE 74th Street. Consulting fees of \$39,270 and estimated construction costs of \$160-240/SF or ranging from \$960,000 - 1.44mil assuming 8ft width for half the length and 16ft width for the rest similar to Earl Powers. Next step would be presentation of these numbers to the Board for project/budget approval.

Jonesville Park - Proposed construction of a new soccer stadium (with bleachers, press box, locker rooms, and additional parking) and some new pickleball courts. We're working to secure an estimate for consulting fees and preliminary construction costs.

8. **Parks Master Plan Projects Update - Ed Williams**

Squirrel Ridge – Add restrooms.

GRU Wetlands – Add park amenities & parking as appropriate.

St. Peter/St. Paul – Develop new park with amenities as appropriate (dependent upon MOU with church for use of land).

Industrial Park (name change forthcoming) – Develop new park with amenities as appropriate.

McCall Park – Develop new park (similar to conservation lands) with amenities as appropriate.

Walker Park – Develop new park with amenities as appropriate.

6. **Parks Risk Assessment Update - Ed Williams**

Once the following are complete, the Risk Assessment will be 99% complete:

Santa Fe Lake Park - Electrician, plumber, and Clay Electric are finishing up their respective parts so that we can request the final inspection, and we are gathering quotes for demolition of the old restrooms. New signage is in the works to honor Ms. McGuire.

Poe Springs - Boat Launch - Replacement boarding dock that incorporates an accessible kayak launch, accessible parking, and an accessible route tying them together. We had a pre-app conference with Growth Mgmt yesterday to review the preliminary design. It went well, and now JBPro will work on design development and a submission for the DRC

MKR/Kate Barnes - We're waiting for approval of our development plan from state parks so they can in turn sign the affidavit for development plan review for Growth Management and the SJRWMD. Once this is done JBPro can finish construction documents and put the project out for bids. Depending on approvals, construction is not likely to begin until late spring/early summer of next year.

Copeland Park - We're working on a master plan for this park that incorporates the feedback we receiving from that community earlier this year. This will likely include a new/relocated playground, additional parking, better accessibility, landscaping, site lighting, and additional amenities as appropriate.

Monteocha Park - We held a community engagement meeting with this community on 10/21 and received some good feedback. We'll be working on a master plan for this park as well that incorporates many of the same amenities listed above for Copeland Park.

7. Discuss GAI Wayfinding Proposal - Ed Williams

Standardized and modernized signage (both wayfinding and interpretive) is needed throughout our Parks system to establish a sense of place. The consensus of the Committee was that it should be pursued.

9. Discuss Day/Time/Location of Future Meetings

The consensus was to meet on Jan. 18 at 1:30 p.m. at Monteocha Park.

10. Public Comment

None.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.