

Committee Members:

Chairperson

Luci Snowden, Citizen
Term: 2018-2020

Vice Chairperson

Brian Dehnert, Citizen
Term: 2019-2021

Laurie Leingang, Citizen
Term: 2020-2022

Rena Mehlhoff, Citizen
Term: 2020-2022

Crystal Tretbar, Citizen
Term: 2019-2021

Jody Skogen, Citizen
Term: 2020-2022

Maria Walen, Citizen
Term: 2018-2020

Jim Neubauer, Administration

Shawn Ouradnik, Building
Official

Ellen Huber, Business
Development & Communications

Erin Ourada, Custer Health

Justin Froseth, Planning &
Engineering

Candy Fleck, Code
Enforcement Officer / Police

Mitch Bitz, Public Works

Liaisons:

John Van Dyke, City Planner

Kari Moore, Communications &
Community Services Coordinator

Katie Nagel, Arborist

Lori Flaten, Deputy Chief of
Police

Mandan Community Beautification Committee

Thursday, February 13, 2020

7:30 a.m.

Veterans' Conference Room

Mandan City Hall, 205 Second Avenue NW

MINUTES

A. Introductions

Dehnert called the meeting to order. Members present are indicated by a . Also in attendance was Grounds Maintenance Superintendent Jason Herman.

B. Consider minutes from Dec. 12, 2019 meeting

Walen moved to approve the minutes. Neubauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Consider committee reorganization

a. Elect Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Dehnert reported Snowden is willing to remain chairperson, if no one else is interested, and he would prefer to take a break from the vice chairperson role. Mehlhoff volunteered to fill the vice chairperson role. Neubauer moved to approve Snowden as chairperson and Mehlhoff as vice chairperson for 2020. Leingang seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Discuss Community Clean-Up Day

a. Saturday, April 25, 2020

This year's Community Clean-Up Day will be the Saturday following Spring Clean-Up Week. Huber reported we have a commitment for 10,000 trash bags from Keep North Dakota Clean, and most major sponsors are on board again this year. Dakota Community Bank has already committed to an event on April 25 at the zoo, but is checking to see if they are able to provide grilling services at Community Clean-Up Day as well. If not, another option will need to be sought.

Volunteer numbers were a little lower than hoped last year, but it was still a great turnout considering the weather. The goal is for 300 volunteers the day of.

The committee discussed a backup date of May 2. There is a concern of availability of some City Staff on May 2, but it is the best option for a backup date. A volunteer sign-up sheet was passed around the room. Staff will continue to work on all the details and come back with a report during the April meeting.

E. Discuss Resilient Communities Program

Mehlhoff came across a grant opportunity through the Resilient Communities Program that she felt would qualify for rain gardens in the Memorial Highway improvements project. The deadline to apply for this year is Feb. 18 and it would be hard to get an application turned around in five days. Mehlhoff contacted the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) on if the grant is available next year as well, and found out they are working with Wells Fargo to see if they can obtain funding for 2021 grants. So it may be a possibility for next year.

Van Dyke liked that conservation easements would be covered under the grant, and that the green stormwater infrastructures, such as raingardens would qualify. Froseth shared the grant information with HDR Inc., the consultants for the Memorial Highway project, and it was new information to them. He said if the grant is available and if the committee wanted to pursue applying for the grant in 2021, it would fit in the project's timeline as construction is currently set to begin in 2022. Mehlhoff is willing to remain in contact and keep an eye out for the grant application for 2021.

F. Update on projects**a. Update on Library, Dykshoorn & Heritage Park Project (Neubauer)**

Neubauer presented the design concepts for the library and Dykshoorn and Heritage parks improvement project in detail. The project was born out of a \$3 million donation from Energy Transfer for library and downtown park improvements. The City received \$1.5 million from Energy Transfer this past summer, and expects to receive the final \$1.5 million once shovels are in the ground. A community open-house was held Tuesday, Feb. 11 for the community to provide input on the project before it goes to the Morton Mandan Public Library Board of Trustees on Feb. 17 and the City Commission on Feb. 18. The community has had a few other options to provide input, and there have been stakeholder and steering committee meetings. Plans for the library addition include a community meeting space, public restrooms, and a garage for the bookmobile. Park enhancements include features such as meandering pathways, lighting elements, seating options throughout, an open-air pavilion on the east end of the park, splash pad elements, and an open turf area on the east end that could be flooded as an ice skating rink in the winter. The hope is to make the parks more useable year-round.

The project is planned to occur in phases, possibly over the next three to five years, starting with the library first and hopefully Dykshoorn park. Neubauer reported the Art in the Park committee is on board with the improvements and excited. The updates do include touching up the north side of the current library building, mill and overlay of the parking lot, greening up the west end of the library, and irrigation and electrical additions for the park improvements. Ourada warned from a health department point of view, that splash pads are notorious for spreading sicknesses due to water quality, so they have to be well maintained and monitored. They would need to be chlorinated, licensed and inspected by the health department. Splash pads are something the community has requested for many years now.

If the Library board and City Commission give their approval, the consultants will proceed with design plans and then the project would go out for bids, with the hope of a June ground

breaking. Stantec, the consultant working on the landscaping and park elements, is looking into funding and sponsorship opportunities for the project as well.

G. Other Status Reports

a. Discuss tree-planting grant application (Nagel)

Nagel provided the group with an update on the planting of the trees from the 2019 grant. She is planning a spring planting of the trees at the gateway on the east end of Main Street, but will need volunteers to help. She's thinking it may be May or June before planting. Dehnert stated it may be a project that Bobcat can volunteer to help with.

Nagel reported there are two tree-planting grant opportunities that will open soon with a due date for the end of April. The Community Family Forest grant is for \$2,000 and requires at 20% match. The larger grant is the America the Beautiful grant for up to \$10,000 with a 50% match. Nagel felt like some of the downtown parks enhancements would qualify for the America the Beautiful grant.

Van Dyke then reported to the committee that there is an AARP Community Challenge Grant that has a deadline quickly approaching. The grant is for anything that activates the community and helps make it livable for people of all ages. He has looked into a mural on the alley side of City Hall. The project would be led by Mel Gordon, who did the Bearscat Bakehouse mural, and would include community members helping to design the mural. The project cost was quoted at about \$9,500 and could be mountable so that it is moveable if building repairs occur in the future. Van Dyke felt the project being at City Hall would allow the City to take a stand on being supportive of public art. Plus it allows the City to, hopefully, lead by example for other public art projects in the community. Huber moved to support Van Dyke in seeking the AARP Community Challenge Grant for the project. Ouradnik seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

H. Future Meetings

- a. Thursday, April 9, 2020 (7:30 a.m.)
- b. Thursday, June 11, 2020 (7:30 a.m.)

I. Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.