

**City of Cleveland Heights
Citizens Advisory Committee
Public Hearing
April 19, 2016**

Executive Conference Room, Cleveland Heights City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Benson

Kim DeNero-Ackroyd

Douglas Dykes

Bradley Eckert

Cory Farmer

Jonathan Goldman

Christine Henry

Robin Koslen

Gail Larson

Allison McCallum

Marian Morton

T. Nadas

Donalene Poduska

Steve Titchenal

Meg Vanderbilt

Sarah West

MEMBERS ABSENT

Vetella Camper (exc.)

Dawn Ellis (exc.)

Menachem Lubling (exc.)

Amanda Shaffer (exc.)

Parker Zabell (exc.)

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mary Dunbar

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy McLaughlin

GUESTS PRESENT

Joe McRae, Director of Parks and Recreation

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Allison McCallum called the meeting to order. Vice Chair Steve Titchenal called the roll; a quorum was present. The members observed a moment of silence in memory of George Witherspoon who passed away in early April. New members were introduced to the committee.

PRESENTATION

Joe McRae, Director of Parks and Recreation since September 2015, introduced himself to the committee and answered their questions regarding programming at the city's parks and the community center. He is looking at the programs currently offered and

hopes to increase the programming. The city started a new program on Sunday, Women Out Walking (WOW), with great success, surpassing the goal of 100 women by more than 50%. Joe is looking to engage the community more and collaborate with other organizations and private sector entities. Denison tennis courts are going to be re-done this spring and Pickle Ball leagues are a possibility in the near future.

Joe does not see a time where the city would be interested in turning the Cleveland Heights side of Forest Hill Park to the Metroparks system.

MINUTES

Minutes of the March 15, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

STAFF REPORT

Nancy reviewed the financial statement noting that there were no unusual expenditures. Programs continue to run, business as usual, as the City is able to temporarily advance funds as needed until 2016 funds are available. The break in the weather has allowed contractors to begin painting and other outdoor projects.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The new members have made their subcommittee choices. They will be forwarded to Allison McCallum to allow her to finalize the subcommittee rosters in the next week or so.

NEW BUSINESS

Nancy McLaughlin presented the Minority Business Report for the period of October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016. During this time period a total of \$341,824 was expended on contracts. Of this amount \$26,595 or 8% was awarded to minority business enterprises. This is below our historic goal of 27%. It is important to note that our major infrastructure projects are required by codified ordinance to follow a formal competitive bidding process. If these project expenses are pulled out of the equation our MBE percentage is 13%.

Nancy passed out a copy of the "standing rules" which were approved in April 2015. They will be voted on next month.

Kim DeNero-Ackroyd asked the committee if they would be willing to have library staff at future meetings. The library is undergoing a strategic planning process and is trying to have their staff become familiar with various committees, boards, organizations etc. in the community. Also, the library is celebrating its centennial with an event at the Coventry branch on May 1.

Mary Dunbar gave an update on the city. She told the committee that an RFQ/RFP for Top of the Hill has been released and is available on the City's website. Also, a search firm has been hired to assist with the hiring of an Economic Development Director.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Allison McCallum, Chair

Steve Titchenal, Vice Chair