

MARION PARK BOARD MINUTES

January 30, 2018, Noon

Thomas Park Administration and Operations Facility
Special Meeting

ROLL CALL: Chair Amy Hussel, Patty Wise, Kyle Martin, John McIntosh

ABSENT: Terry Sperial

STAFF: Mike Carolan, Karlene Hummel, Darcie Coberly

GUESTS: Jay Moore

Public Input

None.

Lowe Park South End Playground Design and Vendor Approval

The City solicited conceptual playground design proposals from five vendors and received four. Marion Park staff and MSA reviewed the proposals and narrowed the list to two vendors. The two finalists were Outdoor Recreation Inc., featuring Landscape Structures playground equipment, and Fry and Associates, featuring Playworld playground equipment. The Landscape Structures proposal features 39 play elements and Playworld has 35 play elements. Both have areas for ages 2 to 5 and incorporated inclusive play into the designs. An open house was held on January 9 for the purpose of gathering public input related to all phases of the project. The open house generated one written comment associated with the playground; this written comment indicated a preference for the design submitted by Fry and Associates. Verbal comments indicated both designs were great.

Wise commented about the number of swings in each design and shared her observations at playgrounds in the area while with her grandchildren. Martin stated the height of the play structures draws his attention and is different in each design. Hussel asked about the age ranges of users; Carolan replied the age groups are 2 to 5 and 5 to 12, and both designs include play areas for these groups. After lengthy discussion all board members indicated the design by Outdoor Recreation with Landscape Structures was more appealing.

Carolan revealed the cost of each design; Fry and Associates' design is \$250,000, and Outdoor Recreation's design is \$299,754. Concrete and other expenses will add another \$30,000 to \$35,000. McIntosh asked if any of the work could be done in-house. Carolan replied the work is specific to playground construction and cannot be completed by operations staff.

The board members discussed possible changes to each design to make one more appealing or to bring the costs more in-line with each other. Carolan showed the board another design submitted by Fry and Associates which cost \$300,000. Even considering this, the board still favored Outdoor Recreation's design.

Carolan stated the increased cost of the play area could impact the overall project a dit might be necessary to delay other phases, such as the pavilion. Wise supported phasing in the pavilion construction in order to build the play structure as it provided the greatest appeal to the community. Carolan said he would look at all the options for funding the South End project and discuss with City Council if needed. He also pointed out the Parks and Recreation Foundation will be fundraising for the playground with a goal of \$150,000.

Moved by Wise and seconded by Martin to approve the playground design from Outdoor Recreation featuring Landscape Structures equipment in the amount of \$299,754 for the Lowe Park South End Development Project. All in favor, motion carried.

Other Discussion

None

Board Discussion

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2018, at 4:00 p.m.

Kyle Martin, Secretary