

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

August 11, 2009

4:30 P.M.

In the absence of Chairman Gilbert, Councilwoman Berz called the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee to order with Councilmen Murphy, Benson, Scott, Ladd, and Robinson present. Councilman McGary joined the meeting later. City Attorney Michael McMahan and Shirley Crownover, Assistant Clerk to the Council, were also present.

On motion of Councilwoman Robinson, seconded by Councilwoman Ladd, the minutes of the August 4th Parks and Recreation Committee meeting were approved.

Councilwoman Berz stated that Mr. David DiStefano had asked that she bring forward the name of **David G. Queen, CPA**, as the fifth member of the Audit Committee. **On motion of Councilwoman Ladd, seconded by Councilman McGary**, this member was approved.

HISTORICAL MARKER PROGRAM

Adm. Zehnder stated that this item had been left off the last agenda; that **Bob Doak** of the Chattanooga Area Convention and Visitors Bureau was present for an information session only.

Mr. Doak stated that they had been working with the State of Tennessee on ways to commemorate the Civil War and that this should be completed by 2011 to 2013; that they were partnering with TDOT to pay for signage and believed that this would be an enhancement to get people into Chattanooga to spend money. There will be no cost to the City as the State has offered this to the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and they will be paying the rest of it. Some of the markers will be on right-of-ways, and they hoped to get moving on this as quickly as possible. He turned the meeting over to **Mr. Steve Genovese**.

Mr. Genovese, also with the Chattanooga Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, went into further detail concerning the Civil War Trails Program, showing examples of maps. He noted that the Trust for Historic Preservation had identified this as successful and sustainable; that many tourists come to this area because of the Civil War. He presented the locations of the trails, including Renaissance Park.

Councilmen McGary and Murphy mentioned the Orchard Knob Cemetery, Sherman Reservation and Missionary Ridge, with **Ms. Shelda Rees** explaining that these locations were not listed separately and would automatically be included as Federal sites.

Councilwoman Robinson applauded Bob Doak and his efforts to get tourists to take another look at Chattanooga.

WARNER PARK SPRAYPARK GRANT

Councilwoman Berz recognized **Mr. Tim McCue of Ohio Pool Works** who wished to speak after the presentation.

Adm. Zehnder acquainted the Council with this project started in 2007 with a Grant from the State in the amount of \$225,000, stating that we are in the process of getting the design work done and RFP's provided. This has been advertised and put in the paper and there will be a Resolution to follow so that they could move ahead. He showed a slide that portrayed the excitement of joining kids and water together, noting that this would be part of the Warner Park Pool Complex and another tourist attraction for Chattanooga. This will come up in two weeks and proposals will be reviewed.

Councilwoman Robinson commended Adm. Zehnder on the work of his department in teaching kids how to grow and play.

Councilman McGary questioned the maintenance of the Spraypark, with Adm. Zehnder explaining that it would include a filter and would be simple at about \$3,900 per year. The entry will be close to the Zoo.

Mr. Tim McCue of Ohio Pool Works spoke. He stated that his company's bid was \$8,000 higher than the lowest bidder but that they used all local contractors and local supplies with 1600 to 2000 man hours, which would be all local people. The sub-contractors will be local, as well. He asked that the Council consider this when making their final decision.

Councilman Benson admonished that we had to be careful and cautious that we don't close the door when considering bids from other cities—that we can't build a wall around us and that reciprocity is important when we take into consideration the lowest and best bid.

Mr. McCue noted that the lowest bidder is from Tampa, Florida.

Councilwoman Berz stated that she thought it was the "lowest and most responsible" bidder, questioning the bidder being from Tampa, Florida.

Councilman Benson wanted to know the total bids. There were two proposals at \$420,000 and \$428,000. Ohio Pool Works is \$8,000 higher than the out of town bidder.

Councilman Murphy questioned if there was any provision in State Law that after bids are opened, we could allow someone to re-bid and go lower? Attorney McMahan responded nothing in our current provisions—that we evaluate on what they bid and negotiate with the lowest bidder. Councilwoman Berz felt we should look at the “lowest and most responsible”—that it might be lower if all the dollars were used here. Attorney McMahan mentioned five factors used, with prior work for the City being one of them—local was not one of the factors. Adm. Zehnder stated that Purchasing was reviewing this.

A list of persons, who signed the sheet, and were present at all of today’s meetings is included with this minute material.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.