Meeting # 13: Skatepark Committee Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2019
4:00 pm

PRESENT:

Committee Members:

Anthony Johnson
Tom Long
Jeff Woodbury
Kate Lewis
Kirsten McWilliams
Cybil Kipp
Michele Danois

Committee Members Absent:

Lucas Brown
Jack Gundling
Darrell Rogers

Public Attendees:

Diana Fish(llongfish@gmail.com) Telephone: 207-420-1423
Linda Boudreau(lrb@maine.rr.com)
Andrew Capelluti(pesticide, energy, land trust)
Paul Cunningham

AGENDA:

I.I Review Pillar Feasibility Study
II.Prepare for City Council Workshop Presentation
III.Fundraising and Grant Options
IV.Grant Deadlines and Requirements
V.Next meeting date/time

Notes:

1. Committee has decided that Tom Long will step up as committee chair while Jack is in absentia. Agreement amongst five committee members present. Tom will reach out to Jack personally.
2. Does committee need to officially agree on High School Park as our chosen location after feasibility study? Anthony shared that he thought it was already understood that all committee members were in favor as High School Park as our chosen location.

3. Should we be in contact with residents who live around High School Park to inform them of the December 17th workshop, to outline why we want the park there, and to address some concerns. Letter has been drafted that accomplishes all of these. Anthony would like committee to give feedback on letter and then mail out week of November 18th.

4. Anthony is putting in a request for $140,000.00 to CIP by December 1st as expenses for all site prep work. The full quote is $ 437,000 total.

5. Ultimately, most (about 75%) of historical funding comes from municipal/state grants and funds: we see 75% of projects funded by State/City government grants such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant (LWCF).

6. With High School Park as the chosen location and with South Portland history with LWCF, we are not eligible for these grants, so we will ask for full 75% from city’s CIP fund.

7. April 11th - City Council goes through budget. All departments present their own particular budgets. Two more meetings, eventually passed in June.

8. According to Scott, HS Park is a city owned park, not school property.

9. Council and committee both need to fully understand how park came to city, who owns it, and if there are any restrictions, its history.

I. Review Pillar Feasibility Study

Plans to have Anthony present the study, the park layout plans, and the video.

Kate recommends that presentations are most often presented by an outside expert, not by committee members themselves. However, Brad is not available to be here December.

Showing the video/visual would assuage some concerns but we cannot pick a plan until we confirm a location. Once the city does this, Pillar will present us with three possible plans. This initial plan is for illustrative purposes only. If committee chooses another location, we will get a different designs. The city and committee are not yet at the planning/fundraising part yet.

December 17th presentation to council is just to get approval from city council on location.

We will present five submitted locations, report out pros and cons of each location, and then present the possible visual plans for High School Park.

II. Prepare for City Council Workshop Presentation

Anthony will spearhead this presentation.

He will present study and video as is, reminding it is all hypothetical/illustrative purposes. Committee members will do social media push to get large turn out to pack chambers. Let’s push to have everyone wear their t-shirts.
To Do List:
Anthony will share draft of letter to High School Park surrounding residents ASAP for feedback from committee members so he can mail this out by end of next week.
Jeff will create a flyer that emphasizes that this meeting is just for final location, not design.
Cybil will get Kirsten the email list.
Cybil will personally reach out to C.E. woman to invite her to December 11th fundraising meeting.
Kirsten will get Emmons to type up email list from Cybil and create a google group to invite.
Kirsten will post on FB
Lucas will post on Instagram.
Kirsten will email JMG and SoPo Unite and Boys/Girls Club and principals/Superintendent to invite public.
Kate will put skatepark earliest if possible on agenda.
Linda/Diana will work on PR, possible editorial/letters to editorial to Sentry, celebrating our ongoing work and advertising and inviting attendance.
Michelle to contact Mr. Tordoff to get history of HS park and keep him in loop.

III. Fundraising and Grant Opportunities

IV. Grant deadlines and Requirements

V. Next Meeting date/time

Our next meeting is a big picture fundraising planning session is Wednesday, December 11th. We will start agenda with items III and IV.