Attendees

*Board members and staff present marked with “X”*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ben Osborn – Vice Chair | X | Carrie Henning – Smith - Secretary | X |
| Jake Schwitzer- Chair | X | Jake Reber | X |
| Courtney Laufenberg (Staff) | X | Katie Krisch - Treasurer | X |
| Bob Jorgenson | X | Brittany Resch | X |
| Cory Schaffhausen | X | Andrea Budke | X |
| Allan Cummins | X | Cassie Batinich | X |
| Corey Webster | X |  |  |

Meeting called to order: 7:02 PM. This meeting was held via Zoom due to Covid 19. Meeting minutes from November were approved. Katie Krisch made the motion and it was seconded by Jake Reber. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 1: Councilman Schroeder Update

Councilman Schroeder unable to attend this month.

Agenda Item 2: Pearl Park Updates

Francicsa Pass and Siciid Ali from MPRB presented the Pearl Park Master Plan. $309,595 is approved for the Pearl Park playground update project budget. Pearl Park upgrades include playground, adult recreation area, soccer field, etc. Playground will need to be updated to be ADA accessible, but will stay within the same current locations. Current playground equipment will be taken out and completely replaced. Design and construction to occur in 2021. Currently in community engagement process. Will be sent for board approval in April 2021. The site construction planning will occur in May 2021. Actual demolition and construction will occur Sept. – Nov. 2021 (tentative), in order to be completed before winter. Community input now sought on types of playground equipment and who else should be consulted. An MRPB survey is already being fielded to get more input. Board members shared input on playground equipment for 2-5 and 5-12 playgrounds. Jake. S. suggested that the HPDL board would be happy to partner on any open houses or help in other ways to get the word out. Courtney asked about the possibility of neighbors contributing (donating, memorial bench, etc.). Francisca will get more information about potential options for fundraising – and how much more money might be needed – and will get that information Courtney.

Project website: <https://www.minneapolisparks.org/park_care__improvements/park_projects/current_projects/pearl-park-playground-improvements/>

Survey link: <https://www.minneapolisparks.org/park_care__improvements/park_projects/current_projects/pearl-park-playground-improvements/>

Agenda Item 3: 2021 Planning

Budget will stay at same level as previous three years. Courtney adjusted the proposed budget to reflect that. Still several unknowns with event planning in 2021 with event planning due to COVID-19. Have a surplus of $30,000 going into 2021. Courtney recommends passing budget as proposed. In first 6 months, get budget through old CPP program. For that period, have $38,870 added into current contract. For second 6 months, new guidelines go into effect. Will get more information that soon, including whether/how we qualify for new equity funding. Katie and Courtney had a call with Bob Cooper at the city to go over funding. Discussed investing in housing program, with caution that uncertainty about future year funding could cause very lean years. Detailed financial information was sent in meeting materials.

Jake S. moved to approve the budget for 2021; Allan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Review

Katie provided financial update. Need to move money to cover residential security rebate program. We’ve cut checks for >$12,000 so far, but had only allocated $8,000. Courtney has written 134 checks. Currently have ~$26,000 in “communicate with neighborhood businesses” fund; Katie made a motion to move $10,000 from that fund to security rebate program, bringing that pot to $18,000. Jake S. seconded. Motion passed. Jake S. provided reminder that board members are not eligible for rebate program.

Committee Updates

* **Picnic in the Park:** none
* **Environmental:** none
* **Frost Fest:** event cancelled for 2021
* **Triangle Park:** none
* **Garage Sale:** none
* **Business Association:** none
* **Communications:** Cory provided report. Had a meeting two weeks ago; discussed website and what types of social media would make sense in the near term. Cassie has looked at other neighborhood association websites and suggested reaching out to them to ask how they developed them and get input on what might be useful for ours. Andrea is conducting a content inventory of our site and will provide an update to the committee. The next meeting is in January.
* **Brew and Stew:** none
* **Housing:** see financial notes
* **Public Safety**:Courtney provided update: meeting was held with discussion about how to have better communication and whether an OVP representative can attend a future meeting. The group is figuring out what they’ll be doing in the next year, which will evolve once Minneapolis processes for policing become clearer.
* **Equity**: Ben provided report. Park Commissioner Musich provided report at Equity meeting on Solomon Park, which suggested that updates couldn’t be done in the immediate term. Next steps will be discussed with the Equity Committee after more materials are provided from Park Board. Mosley house update – suspect apprehended. Planning continues on racial equity training – still looking for a facilitator and plan that is a good fit for HPDL. Two block listening sessions planned for January to gain input.

New Business

Andrea provided some ideas in lieu of Frost Fest: including socially-distanced flash mob at Pearl Park; drive-in movie night; “take Frost Fest home” (pick up a kit). Courtney had spoken with Aaron who runs Pearl Park, and they have strict rules on any types of gatherings. She’ll look into what might be possible. Current MN COVID restrictions could make any event planning difficult. Maybe creative way to get around this – e.g., hide medallion and hold scavenger hunt with clues released by social media. Could potentially target having a take-home kit in February, but would not be able to get some/all of those supplies reimbursed. Another idea might include having people build snow sculptures (snowmen, “snowfa”, etc.) in their yards and submit pictures, or decorate their yard, and then provide prizes. Andrea will work on moving this forward, for February. Will communicate next steps over email.

Courtney announced that she’ll be leaving in early 2021 (after 11 years in her current HPDL staff role). A new position will be posted in January with the hope that she’ll transition out in February.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:31 pm**