

Village of Grosse Pointe Shores
Parks Blue Ribbon Committee
Minutes
June 7, 2016

The Village of Grosse Pointe Shores Parks Blue Ribbon Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 in the Council Chambers of the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building, 795 Lake Shores Rd. The meeting was called to order at 10:40 a.m. by Co-Chair Robert Barrette.

Roll Call

Present: Co-Chair Robert Barrette, Co-Chair Tina Ellis, Committee Members Joyce Jacobs, Tom Lauzon (GPYC Rep), and Brett Marshall.

Also Present: Parks & Harbor Committee Members: Bruce Kopf, Burnie Pemberton, Frank Tenkel, Bruce Vollmer, Albert Kahn Landscape Architect Riccardo Pappini, Chief John Schulte, Director of Public Safety, Brett Smith, Director of Public Works, and Executive Administrative Assistant Laurie Duncan

Absent: Committee Members John Booth & Laura Hanna

All correspondence and reports relating to this meeting are either attached or placed on file.

Introduction of Committee Members

Each Member present introduced themselves and gave a brief background of their related position to the board.

Presentation & Review of Draft Revised Master Plan by Albert Kahn – Riccardo Pappini, Landscape Architect

Landscape Architect Riccardo Pappini was present from Albert Kahn to present a draft review of the revised Park Master Plan.

Riccardo Pappini stated there are three phases of the overall Improvements:

- Phase 1 East – Tennis Court Area; Phase 1 West - Gravel Lot Municipal Field Parking
- Phase 2 North & South – Parking at GPS George Osius Park
- Phase 3 – Parking at GPS City Hall

Mr. Pappini reviewed Phase 1 (Tennis Court Area & Gravel Lot Municipal Field Parking) with the committee with an Opinion Cost of approximately \$344,808.

Discussion on phase I included the following:

- Tina Ellis suggested consideration on moving tennis courts to a different area in the park so they would not take up lake front views. After a brief discussion, it was determined that they would be too costly to move.

Mr. Pappini then reviewed Phase 2 (Parking at GPS George Osius Park) with the committee with an Opinion Cost of approximately \$627,389.

Discussion involved the following

- Brett Marshall suggested having the construction of the gate house accessible to the driver side of car. Mr. Pappini stated he would revisit that plan to make that possible.
- Frank Tenkel voiced concern for pedestrian and bicyclist's safety with the proposed draft plan. Mr. Pappini stated he would add pedestrian walks & gates.
- Mr. Tenkel questioned why there is a need to change the location of the current gate area. Several members stated it was due to an increased concern of non-residents using the park. Bob Barrette and Bruce Kopf stated that the non-resident use has recently been addressed with additional rules being implemented, all park passes being checked, and rules being strictly enforced.
- Several committee members voiced concern over loss of parking spaces if the gate house is relocated to the location in the current draft plan.
- Joyce Jacobs stated that security of the parking lot is not as big of an issue as security of the park is.
- Ms. Ellis suggested the option of moving the entrance closer to Lake Shore Road to eliminate a turn-around elevating the issue of losing parking spaces. Mr. Tenkel voiced concern over elderly residents having too far to walk to the park with this option. Chief John Schulte stated the Department of Transportation (DOT) or an engineer would have to evaluate this option because the location may be an issue if the gate is located too close to Lake Shore Road. Mr. Pappini stated they didn't originally look into this option because of costly curb cuts and DOT concerns. A deceleration lane might be an option.
- Mr. Barrette asked GPYC Representative Tom Lauzon if sharing the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club entrance could be an option. Mr. Lauzon said he could look into it and would have to present it to the GPYC Board. A concern would be a back up of cars onto Lake Shore Road, but that he would not be opposed looking into it.
- Ms. Ellis also suggested adding additional exit areas to the park, turn-style type areas where one could exit the park, but could not enter the park. This would eliminate having to walk back to the entrance to exit. Mr. Pappini said he would add this to his list of changes.
- Mr. Tenkel voiced safety concerns over the timing of the cross light from Lake Shore Road to the park. DPW Director Brett Smith addressed that issue and stated that with the current construction of the Lake Shore and Vernier Road intersection project, the system will be automatically programmed to resolve this issue.

After much discussion on Phase 2, it was the general consensus of the committee that phase 2 North needs to be redone to eliminate the turnaround and relocation of the gate house; and Phase 2 South parking needs to be eliminated. The committee agreed to see if the security improvements work before making major changes inside the parking lot. It was decided that

following the meeting, the committee would do a walk-through of the park and lot with Mr. Pappini to review other options.

Lastly, Mr. Pappini reviewed Phase 3 with the committee with an Opinion Cost of approximately \$194,425.

Discussion on Phase 3 (Parking at GPS City Hall) included the following:

- Mr. Kopf asked if the existing Arborvitae trees could be moved to make more parking spaces. Mr. Marshall stated the trees would probably not survive being moved.
- The committee agreed there is no need for a drop off area as proposed. Mr. Pappini agreed to eliminate it from the plan.
- The committee discussed if the lot should be paved or left as a gravel lot, cost being the primary concern. No decision was made.

Public Comment

No public comment

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. at the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building (795 Lake Shore Road).

Adjournment

The Grosse Pointe Shores Park Blue Ribbon Committee meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. on motion duly supported and carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Barrette
Co-Chair

Tina Ellis
Co-Chair