

DIX PARK | MASTER PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Workshop #4

Wednesday, April 5, 2017, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Five Points Center for Active Adults, 2000 Noble Road, Raleigh, NC, 27608

Agenda

6:00pm	Welcome
6:05pm	MPAC Discussion- Governance and Engagement
6:30pm	Break for Dinner
6:45pm	Noteworthy Big Picture Trends Presentation by Emlyn Koster, CEO North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences
7:30pm	Questions & Discussion
8:00pm	Meeting Close

Meeting Notes

Governance Discussion

Members of the MPAC suggested that leadership roles should take the form of a chairman and vice chairman or a small working committee instead of a president and vice president. The thought is that the leadership role should be one of a facilitator and communicator, not a decision maker. Reporting up is as important as reporting out. Members also noted that the roles should be fluid in the beginning so that roles may expand, compress, and adapt as the planning process evolves. Members suggested that leadership positions should rotate over time to give others an opportunity for leadership and to bring different perspectives to the table.

In order for members to be able to select a leader, members said that they need to get to know one another better. Some members suggested dividing up the committees based on the six MVVA focus areas and/or how the park functions: arts culture, sports and fitness, design, etc.

Follow up to this discussion: *In follow-up to this discussion staff will work to schedule a mixer and draft a job description that aligns with the governance role(s) envisioned by the MPAC.*

Engagement Discussion

MPAC Members then brainstormed ideas for public events for community engagement at the park. Ideas included the following:

- Seasonal Events
- Hot air balloons
- Haunted House
- Fireworks for the 4th of July
- Movie
- Scavenger Hunt – like Questival/Amazing Race
- Geocaching
- Music Events for all age groups
- World’s Largest Picnic
- Art at the Park
- Bike Ride
- Giant day long festival
- TED at the Park
- Symphony
- Make Giant Rube Goldberg Machine across the big field or throughout the park
- Campout
- Kite Festival
- 5k Race with funding going to mental health
- 3 vs. 3 soccer or basketball tournament
- Time specific temporary art installation or event
- Behind the scenes tour of the buildings
- Community dinner
- Archeology field school
- Blue grass festival
- Beer Fest
- Acorn Drop at the park
- Shakespeare in the park
- Drone races
- Soccer stadium
- Slip ‘n slide on The Hill
- Christmas lights
- Horse racing
- Battle of the bands
- Silent disco
- Dog meet up
- Screening of major sports events
- Food festival
- Local artist mini concerts
- Paintball or laser tag
- Lantern festival
- Puppet show
- Blackberry harvest
- Dog Olympics
- Parade
- Soap box derby
- Laff-a-lympics
- Silly Olympic Games
- Break a Guinness World Record
- Taste of Raleigh
- Farm 2 Fork-farmer’s market event
- World’s largest bicycle event
- Hula hoop event/contest
- Giant Just Dance event or Dance Dance Revolution
- Alternative 5k with a partner (part is running backwards, part is piggy back ride, part is wheelbarrow race, run a mile in your teammate’s shoes, etc.)
- Paper airplane flying contest
- Picnic with games: Sack races, tug o war, egg toss competition, pie eating contest, etc.

Follow up to this discussion: *In follow-up to this discussion staff will review the proposed events with MVVA as part of an overall engagement strategy.*

Noteworthy Big Picture Trends Presentation by Dr. Emlyn Koster

Lastly, Dr. Emlyn Koster, the President of North Carolina Museum of Natural Science spoke on a variety of noteworthy trends relative to the development of Dix Park. Koster posed the idea of making Raleigh “the global icon in the wellness movement.” Saying, when working on the mental health aspect of the project, we must include those involved in the mental health field, “no decision about us without

us.” In addition, Koster challenged the committee to work towards a “unified bold vision” for the park. He suggested that the development of Dix Park presents an opportunity to position Raleigh as a world-class city focused on social, economic and environmental vitality. Dr. Koster’s presentation and videos are available through the following Sharefile link: <https://raleigh.sharefile.com/d-sa2c4a3099cf42a28>

Next Meeting

Staff is working to schedule a mixer and the next meeting.

Upcoming Community Events at Dix Park

Spring Fling at Dorothea Dix Park – Play Like a Kid Again! April 9

Adults will get a chance to be a kid again while they run through a 50’ inflatable obstacle course, take funny selfies and search for eggs stuffed with candy and prizes!

Explore Dorothea Dix Park – A Burden Too Great to Bear: Dorothea Dix Hospital and the Civil War, April 15, 1 p.m.

Join COR Museum Director Ernest Dollar as he explores the occupation of the hospital grounds by Union soldiers in 1865 and the war’s legacy in those who sought treatment for the deep trauma it caused. Using letters, diaries and patient records, Dollar brings to life those who found the Civil War’s carnage a burden too great to bear.

Twilight Trek! – April 22, 8 p.m.

Celebrate Earth Day with a guided evening hike led by a Wildlife Educator! The hike will last approximately 50 minutes and will focus on Dorothea Dix Park's history, landscapes and habitats.

Spring Nature Walk – April 23, 10:30 a.m.

Take a Sunday stroll with us on an easy paced, guided nature hike through Dix Park. The walk will be about a mile and will focus on birds, frogs, and seasonal nature.

Get Fit at Dix - Nia! – April 29, 10 a.m.

NIA is a form of fusion fitness for the body, mind, emotions and spirit. The technique integrates movements from dance, the martial arts and healing arts to create an experience that is high energy, expressive, fun and restorative. This non-impact form is a safe, body-centered workout that is adaptable for all fitness level.

Explore Dorothea Dix Park – Volunteer! Invasive Species Removal – May 6, 9 a.m.

Join us at Dorothea Dix Park in an invasive plant removal volunteer activity. Invasive plants threaten our natural habitats for wildlife and create hazardous conditions along our greenway trails. Removing these plants allows native species to flourish and helps provide healthy homes for wildlife.

Skywatching – May 6, 9 p.m.

Join staff and volunteers from the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, Chapel Hill Astronomical and Observational Society (CHAOS) and Raleigh Astronomy Club (RAC) for a free skywatching program at Dorothea Dix Park! Telescopes will be set up to view stars and the moon. Look up at the night sky as educators guide you through fun observations of stars, planets, moons, nebulae and other celestial objects!

National Bike Month – May 20, 8:30 a.m.

Did you know May is National Bike Month? What better way to celebrate than taking a ride on City of Raleigh greenways, with a stop at Dorothea Dix Park! This low-key ride will start at Eliza Pool Park. We'll venture out on the Walnut Creek Trail and bike through NC State's Centennial Campus before taking a break at Dorothea Dix Park. We'll then continue along the Rocky Branch Trail which will bring us back to Eliza Pool Park.

Urban Sketching for All Ages with Artspace – May 27, 10 a.m.

Join experienced teaching artists, Scott Renk (Mary Phillips High School) and Angela Lombardi Zappala (Education and Outreach Coordinator at Artspace), for a lively morning of drawing outside.

Urban Sketching for Adults with Artspace – May 27, 1 p.m.

Join experienced teaching artists, Scott Renk (Mary Phillips High School) and Angela Lombardi Zappala (Education and Outreach Coordinator at Artspace), for a lively afternoon of drawing outside.

Summer Concert Series – Begins June 4, 6 p.m.

This summer concert series will feature a relaxed, friendly atmosphere where families can pack a picnic and enjoy the beautiful view of downtown Raleigh from historic Harvey Hill. The concert series will alternate each week between Dix Park and Fletcher Park and will run for ten weeks. Musical acts and food trucks are booked for each Sunday evening.

Explore Dorothea Dix Park – Summer Solstice Yoga with Carrington Jackson – June 21, 5:45 a.m.

Celebrate the longest day of the year with yoga practitioner Carrington Jackson as she leads us through an early morning yoga session in Flowers Field. Watch the sun

rise over downtown Raleigh on the first day of summer as you breathe, stretch, relax and enjoy the peacefulness of nature.

***Register to attend and find out about more events at www.eventbrite.com, keyword search “Dix Park.**