

Dorothea Dix Park

Master Plan Executive Committee

Date: **Wednesday, February 20, 2019**
Time: 8:30am-10:00am
Location: Flower Cottage at Dorothea Dix Park

Meeting Agenda

8:30am-9:00am: Breakfast & Celebration

9:00am-10:00am: Next Steps

- Upcoming Park Programs
- Ongoing Park Improvements
- Phase 1 Implementation Plan
 - Phase 1 Feasibility Studies/Scope
 - Cost Estimates
 - Funding Options
 - Governance
- MOU II
- MPEC Schedule
 - Trips
 - Meetings

10:00am: Meeting Close

Summary

The meeting began with programming updates from Dix Park Programming Director Joseph Voska. He reported on the first annual Dix Park 5k, Flight Day with the YMCA Guides, Dreamville, the Spring Fling & Adult Egg Hunt, Pop-Pupalooza, Spring Jazz Brunch picnic, Parks Expo and Destination Dix 2.0. The dates for all of those events are on dixpark.org/calendar.

Kelly McChesney from the Office of Raleigh arts provided an update on the call for artists for temporary installations at Dix Park and at Destination Dix 2.0. Sixty proposals were submitted. Twenty artists were selected. Artist were given the Legacy Report for background information about the history of the site to inform their work.

Natural Resources and Parks Senior Supervisor, Charles Craig, gave an update on the latest maintenance work at the park. The majority of the fence along Lake Wheeler Road has been removed. The City has

received numerous positive comments about this work. The fence will be recycled and money from the recycling will go back into the parks budget. The second phase of landscaping around the Flower Cottage will begin soon. That work includes new sod, new annuals and perennials, flowering trees, and an irrigation system. Going forward, there will be a heavy focus on improving site lines at the park for safety purposes. Invasive removal has ramped up at the park and it also works to improve site lines. The work for the sunflower field continues moving forward with bloom time set for July. The parks crew is also working to add a 2-to-3-acre wildflower garden by the sunflower field. This fall, the parks crew planted 50,000 daffodil bulbs in Flowers Field. Daffodils are blooming now. The soccer fields are still under lease with NCFC but are in horrible condition and are unsafe because of compaction. The parks crew is looking into this.

Next, Dix Park Planning Supervisor Kate Pearce walked the committee through Phase 1 implementation strategies. City staff will work on this implementation plan and bring it back to City Council for approval. Next step planning studies include but are not limited to:

- A Transportation Study with District 5 NC Department of Transit (DOT), City of Raleigh DOT, and NCSU DOT
- An Infrastructure Master Plan
- An Edge Study
- A Re-zoning Study for the park land
- An Equitable Development Plan
- An Anchor Institutions Study
- A Funding Model
- An Edge Study with the City Planning Department
- The State Farmers Market Master Plan
- A Partnership and Organizational Framework/Governance Plan

The committee briefly discussed the funding model. They noted that when design planning, we must consider the triangle of Cost, Quality, and Time. The design team will present their highest quality and cost. The committee noted that we must determine what the quality will be and set that for all phases of work so there is cohesiveness throughout the park.

Pearce explained that the NCSU leased daycare in the Graham building is set to expire. The decision was made three years ago that this would expire. Miscommunication arose between NCSU and the daycare. The Graham building will transfer to the city in July.

The Chapel will transfer to the City this spring.

Voska reported on Phase Now work projects. These include:

- 911 addressing and wayfinding

- Landscaping park entrances
- ADA Accessibility improvements
- Adding power and water to the Big Field
- Adding higher quality temporary bathrooms to the Big Field
- Updating park kiosks to be more informative
- Adding benches, picnic tables, and other park furniture
- Adding temporary trails
- Improvement to sports fields

Pearce noted that her team will be presenting on the master plan work at a number of conferences this spring/summer/fall. She is also working to find a time for a committee visit to A Gathering Place at Tulsa.

Pearce proposed that the Master Plan Executive Committee switch back to monthly meetings instead of bimonthly.

Meeting close.