

Candler Park Conservancy, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, January 15, 2019

7:00 pm

Rush Center Training Room

1530 Dekalb Ave NE, 30307

Present: **Ken Edelstein, Dan Hanlon, Stacy Funderburke, Elliott Jones, Ben Klehr, Scott Lenhart,** John Skach, **Perry Smith, Amy Stout, Doug Wetzel, Jack White,** and **Omar Zaki.** Lauren Welsh arrived at ~7:45.

Not Present: None

Guests: Lauren Fraley, Micah Lipscomb, and Valdis Zusmanis from Perkins + Will; David Aynes, and Anne Weinberg

The agenda for the meeting (although not formally adopted) was as follows:

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Perkins + Will Playground Concept Presentation
3. Review and Approve Prior Board Meeting Minutes
4. Rival Entertainment at CPNO Meeting
5. Update on Strategic Planning / Work Plan
6. Committee Reports
 - Finance and Audit Committee
 - Board Development and Governance Committee
 - Membership, Fundraising, and Communications Committee
 - Environment, Projects, and Programming Committee

Perkins + Will Playground Concept Presentation

Lauren Fraley, Micah Lipscomb, and Valdis Zusmanis from Perkins + Will attended to share their conceptual design for the playground. They noted that an important consideration they needed to address in their design was the handling of stormwater runoff and that they had designated an area with poor drainage as a stormwater processing site. However, this feature also provides an opportunity for a natural play area. They indicated that another objective was to preserve the dense woodland area on the hillside, but that the hillside provided an opportunity for a fort or high perch for play. They considered the sunny open area as the focal point for active play, while the exposed hillside was a good location for adventure play using hillside slides.

The conceptual designs take into account the various ecoregions and natural communities in and around the playground:

- Woodlands & edges
- Cliffs & bluffs
- Granite outcrops
- Bottomland forests
- Wet meadow
- Riparian zone
- Glades & barrens

The conceptual design strives to incorporate natural elements that are reflective of the region and the topography and connect people with the landscape.

It also encompasses circulation and access features and includes accessible paths, accessible zones, secondary paths that are not accessible, and the hillside slides. It contemplates a looped path or figure eight in the play area. As part of their work on the active lawn and the amphitheatre, they have proposed a re-design on the turnaround at the base of the parking lot as a one-way loop. The drive has also been narrowed to allow the addition of sidewalks without tree removal. The driveway re-design would also include creation of ADA

parking spaces, multiple drop-off zones, and a speedtable for a pedestrian crossing to improve connectivity in the park.

The overall design includes the following features, some of which are optional or dynamic:

1. Gateway feature
2. Fort / overlook
3. Hillside slides
4. Sculpted mound & meeting point
5. Natural play water garden
6. Sculpted turf mounds
7. "Beach" sensory garden
8. Bridge
9. Stormwater bio-retention
10. Intermittent stream / localized stormwater zone
11. Hammock grove
12. Small kids play zone
13. Active play zone with swings / larger play equipment
14. Observation & passive play zone
15. Challenge room (balancing and low ropes)
16. Entry gateway from improved turnaround and drop off
17. Pavilion
18. Hillside seating terraces
19. Wooden platform
20. Hillside climbing / adventure play
21. Canopy walk (accessible route)
22. Switchback ramble to tennis courts
23. Parking drop off & turn around
24. Bike parking.

Their illustrations showed the different areas designated for natural play, social play, and adventure play. They also showed how the plan could be implemented in stages and showed which areas would be completed in which phase.

Review and Approve Minutes from Prior Board Meetings

The group decided to defer voting on the minutes from prior board meetings to handle via email votes.

Rival Entertainment at CPNO Meeting

The organizer of the annual Candler Park Music and Food Festival, Josh Antenucci, will be on the agenda at the upcoming CPNO monthly meeting on Monday, January 21. The group agreed that the event organizer's activities after the last two festivals of pressure-washing mud off the plastic panels removed from the soccer field, flushing the wash into the grate at the base of the turnaround thereby depositing silt and sediment into the stream, is unacceptable. Amy will attend the CPNO meeting to advocate that their support of the special event application at NPU-N be contingent on event organizer discontinuing this practice.

Update on Strategic Planning

Lauren Welsh has analyzed the results and feedback from the recent board retreat and drawn up a work plan for moving forward. She noted there were three specific goals that rose to the top of the list of priorities: expanding the board, designating and commencing our first large project, and increasing

engagement from the community. The next step will be to share the work plan with the Governance Committee for input on implementation and to break down its objectives to committee-level assignment.

Committee Reports:

Finance and Audit:

- The committee did not hold any meetings since the last CPC board meeting, and no written report was provided.
- Elliott Jones (the Treasurer) had left by this time in the board meeting.
- He is to connect with the committee chairs to draw up the annual budget before the next board meeting.

Board Development and Governance:

- The committee did not hold any meetings since the last CPC board meeting, and no written report was provided.
- Scott Lenhart noted that the announcement of our annual meeting (that will be held March 20) must be sent by February 3 to meet the bylaws requirement for 45 days advance notice and that the deadline for nominations for at-large board positions is mid-February.
- Stacy Funderburke, John Skach, and Jacob Lang have suggested a natural planting area along the sidewalk (between the higher pavilion and McLendon Avenue across from the church) as a memorial for Amy Erwin that will be funded by her friends and family.

Membership, Fundraising, and Communications:

- This committee met January 8, and Doug Wetzel provided a written summary.
- Doug and Omar are organizing the second annual Beavers, Bluegrass, and Barbecue event. The proposed date (May 5) will likely be changed to avoid a conflict with Cinco de Mayo.
- This committee will compile their 2019 budget needs at their February meeting that will be held Feb 5.

Environment, Projects, and Programming:

- This committee last met in December and is scheduled to meet again on January 17.
- The team working on the Audubon-funded invasive species removal project around the riparian corridor is working on the educational panel required by the Parks Dept.