

Candler Park Conservancy, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 7:00 pm

Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Present: Omar Zaki, John Wolf, Jack White, Doug Wetzel, Lauren Welsh, Amy Stout, John Skach, Perry Smith, Scott Lenhart, Ben Klehr, Elliot Jones, Dan Hanlon, Ken Edelstein, Kim Awbrey.

Not Present: Stacy Funderburke

Items provided ahead of time, placed on SLACK/CPC shared drive:

- Agenda, DW
 - Previous minutes, JS
 - Governance Document: Board Commitment Form, SL
 - Finance update, JWo
 - Media Request Form link on Slack, KE & OZ
-

Motions Adopted:

1. Adoption of previous minutes – approved unanimously.
 2. Adoption of 'Board Commitment Form' – approved unanimously.
-

Meeting Notes:

Welcome/Call to Action/Timer Reminder (DW)

- Welcome. Thanks offered to esteemed guest stenographer JS for providing last meeting's minutes.

Review & Approve prior Minutes

- Review of minutes was moved to the end of the agenda in response to a request by JW.

Active Lawn Discussion

- Postponed

Governance (SL)

Annual Meeting

- Annual meeting is coming up. It will be a virtual meeting by zoom.
- Some board members are coming up for renewal. It is hoped that that all members do renew, however if anyone would like to complete their service they should reach out to Doug or Scott. There will be a vote at the annual meeting to renew membership for the following people who

are completing 2 years: Ben Klehr, Scott Lenhart, Jack White, Omar Zaki, Kim Awbrey, John Wolf.

- The first round of term-limits for board members including some founding members will occur next year (2022).
- A low public presence is anticipated for our general annual meeting however invitations and announcements are being made. Zero guests are signed up so far. The meeting will be designed as a presentation summarizing the year for the public, as last years' event. The agenda will not include time to conduct this month's regular internal board discussions. It is requested that this month's internal board business and communication occur via slack outside of the annual public meeting forum.
- An invitation will be sent by email to the membership and is currently announced on the website with a registration link.

Board commitment form

- SL and PS created this document. It is envisioned as a tool to be used each year for current board members and an orientation tool for new members. Each member can use it to refresh or visualize our commitment to the organization. SL will make a google for when it is adopted by the board.
- **Motion to approve the board commitment form – passed unanimously.** It may not be fully signed next meeting (which is the public annual meeting) if we have guests, however will reappear on the agenda next time.

Membership/Communications/Fundraising (Ken)

Media request form

- Omar and Ken created a media request forms to make it easy for anyone to submit a form to keep track of social media ideas and submissions. It is posted on slack. The link on Slack leads to a form. Any idea that could be put on social media may be included in the form, including photographs or ideas for park posts/ messenger. Send an idea, contact, or write the whole story.

City is not permitting events in the park

- Movie event and disc golf event idea are not possible as the city continues to prohibit the hosting of events, according to Andrew and Parks Dept. CoA considers the amount of people and in consideration of Covid-19, permits are not issued.

Finance (John)

The monthly finance update is available on SLACK (a workbook link also with tabs to last year's budget). The headlines are:

- balance is 52k
- plus, a new donation 4k

- It is necessary to file a return (any group over 50K budget files). A quote from BT was provided to compile our tax return, at a cheaper price than previously anticipated.
- \$16,875 spent so far on Coxe Curry. A little more spending is expected this year – about 3k. Coxe Curry discussion call is scheduled for tomorrow (Feb. 24) which will prompt more details about deliverables and billing for future work related to ALA fundraising.

Projects (DW)

Small Project Selection

- Regarding small project selection, there has been discussion yielding interesting ways to submit nominations for projects. There were 12 project ideas submitted as nominations, with some overlap (8 discreet projects and 4 projects to the same sites). SF, JS, KA will process what has been submitted and SF will turn around a proposal to narrow down focus for small projects for 2021.

Trees Atlanta: kudzu

- Trees Atlanta has provided a proposal document, facilitated and circulated by PS, outlining a plan for Kudzu removal. JWh feels it critical to have detailed information regarding exactly what chemicals, the timing of a spray and details of public outreach process as well as practical process. JWh points out that Kudzu spray is a fall activity. PS offers that many of these points are in dialogue already as they have been passed along and that this concern is being met because public engagement and review of chemical treatment are part of the Trees Atlanta approach, which will be transparent, and TA will engage with us in order to discuss. JW is encouraged by the dialogue and would like to formally review the information provided by TA. It is agreed that the Projects Committee will be the place to consider the effort fully. PS is hopeful that it will be part of this year's efforts although committee work is underway to determine a portfolio and schedule of projects. JW calls for informed dialogue. All agree it is a committee issue.

Volunteer days

- SF, AS and KA met for a walk-around. A list was created as an inventory list of potential work-day items and areas. We do not have an event planned for March yet. Projects will discuss.

CoA Budget for Arts & Greenspace

- Amir's office is designing a project solicitation exercise modeled after 'downtown decides' which was an exercise to make use of existing budgeted city funds for greenspace and art.
- This exercise will include a call for project ideas supporting greenspace and art, and will call upon voters in Candler Park to identify support for winning projects. The Conservancy is in a good position to propose projects and steward funds. DW suggests that it appears that small projects that offer multiple many 'wins' are strategic.
- CoA is interested in greenspace and arts-related projects that are comprise a series 'big-wins' -- ribbon-cutting, newsletter, press-releasable successes for the city. Funds can go to existing projects as leveraging/ matching. Project submissions are due by April 1st. Upcoming work to conceive and draw up viable proposals should occur in projects committee's next gathering, and CPC should take advantage of the opportunity to submit proposals right away. If funding is

awarded it could come through CPC and happen sept or October. Imagine three projects from us. This might expand/boost small projects' ability to achieve projects this year.

Bathroom

- Among consideration for project investment is the updating/opening of the bathrooms.
- Two community members advocating for bathrooms, Kate Sandhouse and Brittany Shwartzwald, have approached the conservancy. They would like to help the conservancy do whatever it takes to resolve the inaccess to the bathrooms. The board discussed engaging with them and will discuss it at length in projects committee.
- Conversation began regarding the scale of the project and whether it is a 'small' project.
- City has stated that they would handle maintenance. RFPs are being collected from cleaning companies. Interest in port-a-potties has been raised but is seen by CPC as a horrible solution. The current one has been tipped over in the parking lot.
- Conversation followed about the advantage of the possible community fundraising power for this. JWh offers a reminder to get written commitments from the City as to their role in maintenance. LW adds that access to restrooms has been on the most-requested list from the community, since the inception of CPC. She is collecting background information to document the situation and shed light on what hurdles have existed/ what makes the bathroom project complicated. Then we can plug in how to pursue the offer of help by Kate and Brittany's fundraising. JWh points out that it has been an issue in the 70s, 80s, and 90s. DH thinks we are not far off from having a viable solution, building on the learning from explorations thus far and benefitting from DW's established relationship as a point-person with the city. He suggests that it may mean raising around 10k.
- All agree that this topic will go into detailed work in committee.

Review & Approve prior Minutes

- Review of minutes approved unanimously subject to the amendment of a small edit regarding a correction to the attendance list reflecting the presence of LW.

Erwin Garden

- Reports of many people sitting in the garden.

Miscellaneous

- Expressions of congratulations and happiness shared for JWh's recovery from surgery!
- Thanks to all from DW.