

## **Candler Park Conservancy, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting**

April 21, 7:00 pm

Virtual Meeting by Zoom

---

Present: Omar Zaki, John Wolf, Jack White, Doug Wetzel, Lauren Welsh, Amy Stout, Perry Smith, Scott Lenhart, Ben Klehr, Elliot Jones, Stacy Funderburke, Kim Awbrey.

Not Present with prior notice: Ken Edelstein, Dan Hanlon, John Skach

Resources provided on Slack & Email

- Agenda
  - Board Commitment Form
  - Annual Budget Update
  - Minutes
- 

### **Motions Adopted:**

1. Adoption of previous minutes from February– approved unanimously.
  2. Adoption of previous minutes from March Annual Meeting – approved unanimously.
  3. Motion to re-elect Board Officers for a 1 year term – approved unanimously.
  4. Motion to reappoint Committee Chairs – approved unanimously.
  5. Motion to update annual budget reflecting 3K Coxe Curry expense – approved unanimously.
- 

### **Review & Approve prior Minutes (on slack & email)**

- Adoption of February 2021 Minutes – approved unanimously
- Adoption of March 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes – approved unanimously

### **Active Lawn Discussion (Doug, Lauren)**

The ALA task force has been meeting every two weeks except for spring break. Current focus has been on informational interviews with potential funders. Meetings with several foundations have been conducted by Lauren and Stacy. These introductory meetings have provided some early feedback and indications regarding some of the ways CPC might be a good match for donor portfolios. The exploration is informing the ALA proposal process. ALA team is aware that we can demonstrate diversity in who we serve. Building our collection of demographic data and stories of park usership will serve CPC ability to demonstrate the reach of the project. Qualitative data is helpful. Building institutional capacity as a part of this project may have appeal to certain foundations. ALA team will be mapping dates and submissions schedules for proposals. Several more conversations with foundations scheduled. ALA is encouraged by these introductory conversations.

Board Donations: 100% participation from the board – donations to ALA from each and all of us - will be a way to demonstrate engagement and dedication from our board and will be an important visible step in reaching out to donors. Donations from board members will have practical impacts as well given the

size of our board. It is suggested that members think about a 2-year donation. Our board member pledges will count towards our match. Individual members can pledge – email Doug.

It was suggested that a conversation about how much funding is available from CPNO be refreshed.

Scott Thorpe, new committee member is researching running grants.

Small sets of qualitative data are being collected about park visitation. It speaks to what we know already about who is using the park, showing that the park attracts visitors from all over Atlanta and reflects diversity. Kim has been collecting data with a simple survey. We will aim to add more data in the coming weekends and offer a way for more people to conduct surveys. Collecting photos will help along with quotes.

### **Quarterly Parks Discussion with CoA (Doug)**

Next week is meeting with COA Parks, John Dargle and Doug Voss. Topics of discussion include:

- Regional park designation and exploring CoA investment into 100yr Candler Park projects.
- Restrooms. A bid has been requested to price automated locks such as the westside park new bathrooms has been. We need to pinpoint commitments from CoA regarding their role in the bathrooms.
- Park surveys/census
- Hillside playscape
- MOUs – discuss what a CoA MOU would look like

Suggested to those topics include:

- Pavilion refresh
- CP Decides
- Centennial: CoA role and investment in Candler Park

### **Governance (Scott)**

Board elections occurred last month. Officers and committee chairs now need to be confirmed:

- Officers (Chair - Doug, Vice - Perry, Secretary - Kim, and Treasurer - John) may be elected for another 1 year term.
- Committee Chairs are may be appointed for another year term (Governance – Scott, Development - Ken, Projects - Stacy, and Finance – John W.).
- Reminder - these elections happen annually: March (Board Election) and April (Officers and Chairs).
- Motion to approve the confirmation officers for another one-year term– unanimously.
- Motion to confirm the reappointment of Committee Chairs – approved unanimously.
- Reminder: two forms need to be completed: the Conflict of Interest Form and the Board Commitment Form. SL will remind people via Slack.

### **Projects (Stacy)**

SF thanks all for the cleanup on the 27<sup>th</sup> for mulching and front entrance. Elliot Amy, John, Ken, Kim, and some new volunteers attended. Next cleanup will be in May timed to work with Pavilion update. Goal is to implement volunteer events every other month.

Small projects update:

- Pavilion (Dan is getting cost-estimate for refresh, sod, carpentry, stone).
- Hillside project John Skach is spearheading. JS met with Cythia Gentry and Jody M. – a good project for Candler Park decides, with connection to public art.
- Footbridge idea needs more cost information.
- Digger and bench refresh are on deck.
- Trees Atlanta proposal for the hillside clearing - phase one may fit into this year.

CP Decides: everyone on the board should be aware that many ideas for the park are being proposed that don't originate from CPC. It is important that we consider including a list of projects that we are endorsing. The bigger projects are the hillside, bathrooms. Others include bike racks, murals, poolhouse. Important that CPC is together on what we know is feasible and what we would endorse or could implement.

AS proposes the Beaver Cam. JW supports idea as exciting if it is feasible.

Regarding the subject of a dog park which has been proposed by the community– J Wh suggests a conversation with Amir's staff to explain our concern that is unrelated to being against dog parks but a functionality of the park. There is not a good site. It first came up in 1998. Americorps was involved in educating the community about the problem of having dog parks and feces around waterways.

JWh appreciates Trees Atlanta's good review regarding the kudzu/invasives removal.

SF suggests meeting with Amir would be a contribution to Amir's office to identify most feasible projects, offering all of the background work in the vision plan and expertise as to feasibility and previous community dialogue.

AS emphasizes that Master Plan for CP also indicates no available option for dog park. Non-starter and controversial. Lots of dog owners on CPC board. JWh will suggest to CoA that SF's yard may be claimed for the dog park using eminent domain. 😊

### **Membership/Communications/Fundraising (Doug, Perry)**

Events are underway, and some future possibilities are starting to resurface as pandemic allows.

- Movies in the park could potentially happen in the fall.
- Chalk-a-palooza starts tomorrow. Five spots will offer buckets of chalk that can be used for creations. Yay Earth Day!
- Perry, in collaboration with Trees Atlanta has developed a scavenger hunt – two options = in-person on May 1<sup>st</sup> other option is virtual, downloadable guide. Trees and projects 101 for Candler Park. Link on our social media. Designed to get people into the park.
- May or June for a Disc golf event.
- Fall Fest may hire an outside manager and schedule for October. CPC table, 5k.

## **Finance (John)**

Quiet month on revenue side and expense side.

- Current balance is \$53,091
- An amendment to the annual budget is propose to add a \$3,000 line item for the remaining Cox Curry expenses that was not captured during the annual budgeting process. This will leave us with a projected ending cash balance of \$24,227. It is proposed that this expense be added without reducing other expenses.

Motion to approve updated annual budget – approved unanimously.

## **Call to Action for 2021 (Doug)**

Try to recruit new board members. Keep using slack and mid-monthly meetings to keep up the momentum.

Thanks to all.

Congratulations! Because you read all the way to the end, enjoy this treat below – an Erwin Garden Flyover Cam!

<https://youtu.be/iaBojpfGYDU> Flyover video



**YouTube** | Doug Wetzel

[Candler Park Erwin Memorial Garden Fly Over](https://youtu.be/iaBojpfGYDU)