

**EISENHOWER PARK STUDY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 24, 2007**

The Eisenhower Park Study Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at the Parsons Government Complex, Conference Room C. Chairman M. Lofthouse called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

M. Lofthouse
J. Casey-Piscitelli
S. Wing
S. Daniels
L. Hurwitz

ALSO PRESENT

G. Sorge, Vollmer Associates

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the March 14, 2007 meeting.

Mr. Hurwitz and Mr. Wing moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2007 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Review and Discuss Final Maps and Study Packet

Chairman Lofthouse stated there were some grammatical changes as well as correction of incorrect page numbers that were made.

Mr. Sorge noted the color quality was a bit crisper and also noted the change to the page ordering. He also recalled the discussion at the March meeting regarding the Phases and stated they were clarified. He also noted some numbers were included per Phase. He explained this is basically a “snap shot” in time and a logical progression of importance and how and when to spend the money without it being a burden to the taxpayer. He went over each of the Phases, Phase I being the Environmental piece, Phase II being the renovation of the existing facilities, some of which were long over due and Phase III down the road which would add some of the other structured areas in the park such as the day camp, pavilions, either renovations or new. He stated the initial focus now is Phase I and those initial steps.

Chairman Lofthouse commented he has always spoken about volunteers in the park, which could offset costs. He stated the scouts alone have put in more than 200 hours of work. He stated this is one of the many projects that can be done by the scouts, 4-H Club etc. He stated this is a community park that requires community involvement and commented with the vision of owning lands comes the responsibility for stewardship of these lands. He added Phase II is the repairs and upgrades and that the kids can do a great job with this.

Mr. Hurwitz stated they should not focus on cost because they don’t know what will get done and they don’t know what grants are available, etc. He stated this plan is a footprint and quote as to how we feel the park

should be developed. He spoke of the extraordinary work of this Committee and Gary Sorge and Vollmer Associates who have gone so far beyond. He spoke of when this Committee was faced with selecting a company and had received 36 proposals. He stated they selected Vollmer and could not have conceivably selected anyone better and reiterated his compliments to Gary and Vollmer and thanked him again for going so far beyond.

Mr. Wing echoed the remarks of Mr. Hurwitz and commented how proud he is of this Committee and the work of Gary and his team. He stated this is a solid, comprehensive baseline of the condition in the park through Mr. Sorge and Mr. Jontos and Land Tech and through their vision interjected into the plan we have a vision of what the park can become. He commented about the idea some had that there were going to be hundreds of bulldozers making this huge change and that was never the intent. He stated this plan is so that the park can get better and larger incrementally. He spoke on a personal note of a story a professor would tell and commented this is a map of a great thing and it has to come "slice by slice". He also added this Committee has a clear vision for how to remediate the damage down through neglect and erosion over the years. He stated he looked forward to Eisenhower Park and Solomon/Alter pieces to get better and better.

Chairman Lofthouse extended thanks to everyone on the Committee and especially to Joe Agro and his commitment early on and the other Board members now longer serving on this Board as well as the city agencies that have contributed along the way.

Mr. Sorge turned over the CD to Chairman Lofthouse and noted it is in PDF form and that it could easily go onto the web site.

Chairman Lofthouse stated he would deliver it to the Mayor to distribute as he sees fit.

Mr. Sorge also turned over his final invoice. He explained the balance from the reimbursable account that allowed printing of more copies. He stated with regard to the other meetings that will come up he stated he had made a personal commitment to attend these meetings and that there would be no additional invoices for those meetings.

Chairman Lofthouse noted they are still under budget.

Mr. Hurwitz stated they really are hundreds of thousands of dollars under budget because of the utility company.

Mr. Sorge stated he would estimate it to be around \$400,000 which is probably an under estimate. He also added they are being very careful with the work they are doing.

Mr. Hurwitz

3. Committee vote on Final Plan to be passed onto the Mayor.

Being no further business to discuss, Ms. Daniels and Ms. Casey-Piscitelli moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The Committee adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber
Commission Secretary