

**CITY COMMISSION WORK SESSION  
December 10, 2018**

The work session was called to order by Mayor Steve Leary at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers, 401 Park Avenue South, Winter Park, Florida.

Members present:

Mayor Steve Leary  
Commissioner Greg Seidel (arr. 2:12)  
Commissioner Sarah Sprinkel  
Commissioner Carolyn Cooper  
Commissioner Pete Weldon

Also present:

City Manager Randy Knight  
City Clerk Cynthia Bonham

Parks Master Plan discussion

Tim Egan addressed the existing master plan, requirements in the comprehensive plan that the plan be updated, the old report containing items that were not accomplished so they decided to go in a different direction to make sure items are implemented on a year to year basis. He proposed bringing all items before the Commission each year for acceptance, adoption and implementation, and that the bulk of the approval process will revolve around the Capital Improvement Plan. Mayor Leary stated this will eventually come before the Commission for approval and hoped that they can provide the Commission their ideas and where they are heading, receive feedback from them, and allow them time to digest the information based on the comments received today.

Mr. Egan elaborated on the comprehensive plan process to be adhered to. He explained why they have a parks master plan and that the accreditation agency requires one. Mr. Egan recommended providing a yearly master plan update (making adjustments to the plan based on budget or CIP discussions only) whereby the Commission agreed. Mr. Egan summarized the changes they want to see in the plan – developing their own recreational standards and implementing a public input process that is more often. Mayor Leary asked about the improvements to the parks.

Parks Director Jason Seeley summarized the proposed changes to the parks (Mead bridges underway, put a field use schedule in place for MLK Park and Ward field usage, replacement of poles and upgrade to LED lighting at Ward baseball field that are underway, and Ward Park improvements and parking that is underway). Mr. Egan commented there are not many physical changes to the parks being proposed because they are in very good condition and residents are happy.

Commissioners provided their thoughts regarding the plan. Commissioner Cooper wanted to see a yearly update for the Capital Improvement Plan and addressed the importance of a connectivity plan. Commissioner Seidel spoke about connectivity between areas that need to be reviewed. Commissioner Weldon commented about looking what they have already accomplished and where they can do more of that.

After further comments, there was a consensus that what the actual meaning of connectivity is needs further discussion, i.e., connecting park to park, park to the community, community to community, or business district to business district. Mr. Egan explained the comprehensive plan directs connectivity issues to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Other issues of discussion included lake access and land acquisition. Lake Baldwin beach access was discussed. Commissioner Weldon recommended working with Orlando because of their property located directly to the south of our City line that could be converted to both parking and non-dog access and there is property around the east side of the lake that is deep enough to provide for some parking and some beach access. Parks Director Seeley addressed Lake Baldwin Park in that they want to rotate areas so they can keep some grass growing and reestablish the berm and swale.

Commissioner Sprinkel spoke about not needing more parks and that our existing ones are in good shape. Commissioner Seidel spoke about Lake Baldwin beach access and the number of dogs there that make is sometimes difficult to access the beach. He spoke about his preference to determine connectivity.

Mayor Leary asked the Commission to provide their interpretation of what connectivity means to them to help staff understand what each Commissioner means.

Mayor Leary brought up other issues of discussion to include the City's tennis courts and if we need the number that we currently have or not and if they are serving the Winter Park residents or other outside visitors. He also addressed the tree farm and if makes sense converting it to a solar farm. Commissioner Weldon stated he wants the residents to provide their ideas and thanked staff for managing this well.

In conclusion, the issue of connectivity will be included on a future agenda for more discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.



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City Clerk Cynthia S. Bonham, MMC