

AGENDA

Oak Hills Park Nature Advisory Committee (OHPNAC)

Meeting November 17, 2015

7:00 PM

City Hall, 2nd Floor Lounge

Call to Order

Attendance

Review of revised design

Approval of previous minutes: October 13, 2015 and special meeting November 2, 2015.

Reports

- Art project ideas with Patricia Miranda.
- Letter of intent to mayor and Common Council committee chair re “old leaf dump” and “niblick” parcels.

Approved unanimously as “park land” by full Common Council Oct 13.

- Inclusion of Oak Hills Park walking trail on lists people can access.

Lisa and Elsa walked the trail with Theresa Argondezzi and Barbara McCabe of the “Become a NorWALKER” program. We will work with the Oak Hills Park website under “Nature” as the McNeil group develops their plan for the trail.

- Trail map.

Audrey Cozzarin reports she has updated the trail map (will vet with Anthony Carrano), and can present a printout.

- Design ideas for great lawn and garden/fountain areas.

OHPNAC has submitted comments on the revised plan to McNeil Collaborative.

- Educational outreach
- Grant opportunities.

Elsa has been acting as liaison with Katherine Pytleski and regarding grant opportunities.

Katherine has helped us obtain cost estimates for ground-mounted interpretive signs and kiosks.

Katherine says our best opportunity for a grant is DEEP coming up in the winter.

Goals of the committee:

- More precisely defining the boundaries of the “no-build” areas to be preserved

McNeil Design Collaborative annotated map now specifies these boundaries. We need to record the coordinates.

- More securely protecting those areas as permanent open space
- Plaques to identify trees, wildlife.

Bill Wrenn, Lisa Meserole, Audrey Cozzarin, and Elsa Peterson Obuchowski walked the trail and made note of the species. Lisa has compiled a list.

- Field trips and educational opportunities for young people
- Development of the designated “great lawn” area, Fountain Garden, etc.

See McNeil Design Collaborative’ s design.

- Encouraging sustainable land use practices in Oak Hills Park

Discussion of how to attain them:

- Marketing
- Budget
- Time frame

Old Business:

Monthly column about nature with tips for environmentally friendly practices

Poetry on plaques

New Business:

Next meeting date: Scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 7 PM in 2nd Floor Lounge.

Adjournment