

City of Grosse Pointe Park
Planning Commission Minutes
May 8, 2019

Roll Call

Present: Fred Olds, Dan Clark, David Gaskin, Mayor Denner, Jeff Graham, Mike Fikany

Also Present: Dale Krajniak. City Manager and Nick Sizeland Assistant City Manager

Excused: Mark McCourt and Malik Goodwin

Minutes

Chairman Olds presented to the Board the minutes of January 9, 2019 for approval.

Motion by Graham, supported by Gaskin to approve January 9, 2019 minutes as presented.

MASTER PLAN:

Chairman Olds notes the Master Plan subcommittee will review comments and edits on May 18th and a draft will be made available online by June 3rd.

Chairman Olds noted there will be three open meetings for Master Plan review and comment by the Public at City Hall, the dates and times are as follows. June 25th at 10am, June 27th at 2pm and July 1st at 7pm. Council will receive plan in July and look to adopt in August.

Dan Clark recommends the Eastside Community Network and Jefferson East be invited to the Master Plan public comment period and include into the Master Plan

Dave Gaskin, Malik Goodwin and Mike Fikany had three meetings with the City Manager and toured the City on what can be added from the last Master Plan in 2012. Gaskin provided updated SEMCOG Population estimate from City Manager, received feedback via the website and from the survey posted on the City website. Received input from the City Commissions on additions to the Master Plan

Gaskin stated first 5 pages of Master Plan have not changed much. Population in 2010 according to US Census was 11,555 and SEMCOG predicts 12,449 residents in the Park. Grosse Pointe Park is attracting young families from the Detroit renaissance, need to improve amenities and services including transportation, daycare opportunities and enhancing our parks.

Gaskin noted a survey of alleys was undertaken and in need of updating. Asset Management plan including schedule of street resurfacing. Mack Ave improvements to continue with streetscape.

Graham mentioned program of taking down garages in alleys that are underutilized for parking.

Gaskin stated the Beautification Commission is seeking certification as a National Wildlife park at Patterson and requesting an update of the wood playset. Forestry plan should be developed of the City.

Gaskin notes Short Term Rentals should be barred except 2 story in commercial districts of Mack, Charlevoix and Kercheval. Dan Clark indicated the State has looked to preempt municipalities from regulating Short Term Rentals. City Manager Krajniak notes Short Term Rentals are subject to our rental ordinance and are concern driven from neighbors.

Gaskin noted the Master Plan will include looking into electric vehicles. City Manager Krajniak notes the City looking into electric charging stations for electric vehicles and golf carts with shuttle services from school parking lots for parking. Master Plan to consider bike lane on Kercheval between Grosse Pointe City and Park.

Mayor Denner suggests listing the Grosse Pointe Park Foundation in the Master Plan

Gaskin notes the business districts of Mack, Charlevoix, Jefferson and Kercheval in the Master Plan. Blight removal a priority along Mack Ave and the need for additional parking. Charlevoix should include façade improvements; short term rentals and parking are a need.

Mayor Denner suggests including the need for better pedestrian crossings, signage and traffic safety in business districts and school areas.

Gaskin noted Kercheval is the liveliest among the business districts with festivals the park market and the trolley. The Wayburn/Alter area is in need of redevelopment. Jefferson business area will see a new cultural/art center developed and an improved DDOT/SMART bus turn around

Dan Clark noted a Dog Park is a big issue at Wayburn and the City is looking into alternatives. Graham and Fikany note in the real estate, architect and commercial development business dog parks are growing in popularity. City Manager Krajniak notes the City currently allows 75 dogs at the parks and the City is looking into alternatives that would be the least disruptive to the community.

Dan Clark notes the City should look into fixing thoroughfare traffic with large commercial vehicles including the use on Lakepointe. Traffic study should be encouraged and seek alternative routes.

Chairman Olds asked members of the commission to please submit their ideas to Master Plan Subcommittee Chairman Dave Gaskin. Asked City administration to help with ordinances and zoning. Mayor asked the City Administration to include more SEMCOG data.

Councilmember Read speaking as a resident noted the City needs to use the Master Plan as a marketing tool with graphics and photos. Chairman Olds asked the City administration to do so.

Resident inquired about school closures and the traffic problems associated with such. Pierce and Defer in need of crossing improvements and a traffic study should be done. Mayor Denner noted Public Safety will be making improvements.

Resident at 905 Trombley stated they had received water in their basement from hard rain the previous week and this is the 4th flood in their home within the last 3 years. City Manager Krajniak noted the base of Trombley/Fairfax is about 2-3 ft lower than Jefferson and would have City Engineer contact home owner for help.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned. Motion by Chairman Olds and Second by Graham.

