

# **MONROE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING NOTES**

## **DECEMBER 13, 2006**

***Pat Daniels, Presiding***

Members Attending:

David Clinger, James Hill, Brian Ohlinger, Eddie O'Leary, John Peters, Turk Sties, and Todd Woodson.

Guests Attending:

Elinor Kuhn, Tyler Potterfield, Lt. Mike O'Berry of VCU Police, Joshua Maue

Ms. Pat Daniels opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

The notes from the previous meetings (October and November 2006) were accepted by unanimous vote.

Larry Miller and Tyler Potterfield presented a request to the Advisory Council for an additional \$30,000 in funding for the Monroe Park Landscape Master Plan. The original proposal offer from the consultant was \$190,000++. In a staff review of the proposal components, staff was able to eliminate what they considered to be "fluff" and reduce the cost of the Master Plan work to slightly over \$102,000. As each member knows, the Department of Community Development had committed to paying \$75,000 toward the Master Plan. The additional funding (\$30,000) was to be used to make up the difference in order to pay for the new revised pricing.

Mr. Peters raised the issue that although the price has been reduced, it was his opinion that the Advisory Council should use significantly more of their funds to ensure a more complete Master Plan by increasing the amount to be allocated by \$54,000 so the programming component, which had been eliminated, can be reincorporated back into the project work.

There was considerable debate amongst the members of this concept and, at the end of the this discussion, it was voted on 7 to 1 by the Advisory Council that the original \$30,000 requested would be supplemented with an additional \$54,000 to complete the Plan.

This resulted in altering the original request from Mr. Potterfield and Mr. Miller to \$84,000. This revised amount was approved by the Advisory Council with the caveat that City staff was to go back to the proposer and negotiate the new price.

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Provided this new price was agreeable to the proposer and the Purchasing Dept., City staff was to report back at the January meeting and final approval of the funding would be voted on.

After this discussion, Todd Woodson brought to the Advisory Council's attention that DPU was going to be initiating a project to rewire the Park lights in the next month or two. Larry Miller was requested to inquire about this and to see if this work could be incorporated into the Master Landscape work when it is on-going.

Pat Daniel brought to the attention of the Advisory Council that there are two sub-committees that need membership. Sub-committee #1 is on the Homeless issues and Sub-committee #2 is on Enforcement issues. Please contact Pat Daniels directly for information and to volunteer.

Mr. Woodson also suggested that the Advisory Council look into a bike loan program as part of the programming for the Park. It was decided that this is an interesting concept and should be discussed however as part of the Master Plan work.

Brian Ohlinger reported that he is working on hiring a Park Keeper for the park. Larry Miller was requested to provide job specifications concerning a park keeper to Mr. Ohlinger (update: Larry provided job specifications and descriptions to Ed Bennett at VCU).

Larry Miller was also requested to work up an operational budget for the Park Keeper as the City's contribution toward establishing this position.

Lt. O'Berry reported that there had been some robberies in the VCU area, but no direct incidences in Monroe Park.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until January 10, 2007.

The meeting was adjourned.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. The location of the next meeting is the Landmark Theater – Lounge B – Upstairs.**

**See meeting notice on next page.**

**MEETING NOTICE**

**MONROE PARK ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**Wednesday, January 10, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Location: RICHMOND'S LANDMARK THEATER  
Lounge B - Upstairs  
6 NORTH LAUREL STREET  
RICHMOND, VA 23220**