



City of Hamtramck

3401 Evaline Street Hamtramck, Michigan 48212

Telephone 313-800-5233

Joint Meeting: Beautification and Arts and Culture Commissions

January 21st, 2021; 7:30PM

1. Call to order

- a. Paris moves; Price seconds

2. Roll call

- a. Present: Jessica Paris, Sean Cote, Michele Oberholtzer, Julia Sosin, Angela Fortino, Julianne Bursinger, Timothy Price, Colleen Burke, Dusty Conley, Lynn Blasey, Julie Sailus, Josh Gardner, Faina Lerman
- b. Absent: Dwydell Garrett, George Elkind

3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

SECTION I: AGENDA ITEMS – For Discussion/Action/Information

i. Parks & Recreation Five-Year Plan (Casey Copp)

1. Background

- a. Original draft released on December 23rd for public comment through Jan 22nd
- b. Focus – parks owned by City of Hamtramck (not school district)
- c. Cites the Master Plan heavily
- d. Recent comments have addressed: more explanation of Parks Conservancy, more art installations, green stormwater infrastructure (GSI) on public spaces, solutions for litter
- e. Plan qualifies the City for large (six figure) grants from MI DNR

2. Feedback from present commission members

- a. Diversify park signage languages, match with gateway themes
- b. Plan can more specifically outline relationships with committees
- i. Arts & Culture – work with Parks & Rec to create Calls for Proposals for local artists, support with public unveilings
- ii. Beautification – mobilize community for clean-ups and plantings, assist with outreach and education
- c. Educational components of parks – incorporate bees, wildflowers, demonstration gardens
- d. Sarah Garrett Park
- i. Plan event to commemorate the ending of historic lawsuit, reach out to the family.
- ii. Create companion park on east side of I-75, that connects east and west sides of highway with interpretive material/information, doesn't "other" the west side

- e. Incorporate well-designed landscaping touches onto City property that increase impact of small lots (ex. Detroit Abloom, or native garden across from Popp's Packing)
 - f. Dog Park – work with American Axle to use their parcels
 - i. Lynn has contact working on this for lot across from old Hamtown Farms
 - g. Create Calls for Proposals for residents to adopt vacant green spaces
 - h. Expansion of parkland – City can acquire vacant foreclosed properties through Right of Refusal – though City currently prioritizing housing development
 - i. Trash cans – higher density of cans, consider self-compacting cans, recycling bins
 - j. Incorporate GSI into bump-outs and curb cuts
- ii. Gateways Improvement Project (Mara Braciszewski)
- 1. Background:
 - a. City received large Community Development Block Development Grant (CDBG) [HUD] of \$500,000 to improve gateways at four key intersections bordering the City
 - i. Mara will send out document for our review
 - ii. Focal point: I-75 and Carpenter overpass
 - iii. Other intersections: North and South Joseph Campau, and Caniff & Nagel
 - b. Must use Wayne County contractors and pay prevailing wages
 - c. Timeline: Cost assessment with a payment down by end of 2021
 - 2. Feedback from present commissions
 - a. Frustrations that bulk of money will be spent on overpass; concerns about design looking too corporate [ex. Oak Park]; concerns about “red tape” working with multiple transit authorities
 - b. What are loopholes for local artists to get paid to contribute to gateways? If contractor builds the structure, artists can add their “touch”
 - c. Can this be leveraged with a TAP grant (which fund Jos Campau bike lanes)
 - d. Can we reduce width of roads at North and South entrances into city on Jos Campau?

ADJOURNMENT

Paris moves; Price seconds; Ayes unanimous
 Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

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