

URBAN LANDSCAPE COMMISSION MEETING
Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Attendees: K. Hurst, M. Maupin, A. Tanner, K. Lozier, M. Wise, J. Lattanzi
Guests: Laird Knight- Representative from Green Team

Minutes were corrected and approved from the May 25th meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Green Team: Mr. Knight stated that the Green Team Mission is greening of Morgantown and to become bicycle friendly. The Green Team is an advisory team that is a liaison with all other groups and commissions in the City of Morgantown. The Green Team would like to keep communication lines open and facilitate coordination between all groups.

Alternative Transportation Master Plan would allow for better quality of life, reduce traffic, and improve health and wellness of the citizens of the community.

A question was raised regarding money available from grants for maintenance of rail trails, and Mr. Knight replied that there is federal funding for alternative modes for transportation. Approximately 5 million is available in WV in which only 2 million is being spent.

ULC Chairperson asked BOPARC representative how many people from BOPARC currently maintain the rail trail. Staffing from BOPARC for maintenance of the rail trail is 1 Full Time Employee and 1 Seasonal Employee.

There are 2 different funds run by the State of WV to maintain rail trails.

Mr. Knight stated that there are different degrees of trails. A Single Track Trail is of relatively maintenance. Drainage is a very important part in development of a rail trail.

Mr. Knight noted that a possible resource is the International Bicycling Association and they research are involved with the arts and science of trail construction.

A Commission member recommended that the ULC needs to identify paper streets, alley ways and what is available and evaluate what is potentially available for a trail system.

Mountain Line Bus Stop shelter- Line at Sight Issues: On Mountain Line Bus Shelters advertisements have been placed on the sides resulting in decreased visibility. Commission member contacted ULC Chairperson regarding the signage on the Bus Shelter at Protzman Street. City of Morgantown is in contact with Mountain Line.

OLD BUSINESS

Goals and Recommendations for 5- Year Plan: Move toward creating master plan

MSM Downtown Connectore (WVU-Landscape Architecture Senior Project: ULC Chairperson will have copies made and bring 2 reports to next meeting.

PROJECT SITE REPORT

Staff complemented 4th Ward Representative on flowers looking nice at bus shelter at Protzman and Stewart Streets.

BOPARC Operations Manager had a request from the BOPARC Caretaker at Krepps, asking who is to maintain area at Krepps ball field. BOPARC representative stated that University put it in for the community. BOPARC representative said that BOPARC will help with caring for and maintaining this area since Staff is so busy.

Staff received request from Pool Manager at Marilla Pool. Staff reports that they worked there today, and still has planters, signs and by concession to do.

Everyone has been very helpful at White Park. The Operations Manager has smoothed out and graveled area at White Park increasing holding area. One bay at the end of the building could be possible storage. The City of Morgantown could possibly compensate BOPARC. Also, Valley Crossing is being considered for development as alternative site.

BOPARC representative reports there is a plan for new storage building, but funding has been cut in half.

Parking Authority contacted the Maintenance Supervisor regarding Chestnut Mini Park, staff sprayed herbicide, however parking authority weeded and mulched.

There are two hay racks at D Lot by Black Bear that are not done. They are too low and will be removed.

Some baskets are empty and the street department has been notified to take them down. A basket at the bottom of Pleasant Street has been hit. Some baskets have been over fertilized and have been replanted.

Contract work on Don Knotts Boulevard Island has been done.. Staff has called Patrick from Biafore's and had to leave message regarding one area that needed to be weeded again.

The trees are still not planted in Sunnyside.

BOPARC REPORT

BOPARC representative reports one small issue. At Hazel Ruby McQuain Park the Roh Cherry Trees need to be pruned on Rail Trail, concern for safety and would like to have it done by July 4th weekend.

TREE BOARD REPORT

ULC Chairperson asked if anyone would like to help with inventory on July 25th-29th to contact Anne Cummings. The Tree Board would like to have volunteers to participate in this project.

PROUD OF OUR TOWN AWARD (K. Lozier and A. Tanner)

Next meeting July 27th

Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm