

Parks Commission Planning Meeting
June 25, 2019, 6 – 8 pm

Notes by Yvonne Byrd, Facilitator

People at the Meeting

Parks Commissioners: Kassia Randzio, Dan Dickerson, Fabienne Pattison, Carolyn Grodinsky, Shelby Perry

Staff: Geoff Beyer, Alec Ellsworth

Council Representative: Dona Bate

ITEM	ACTION
Mission	<p>The Commissioners settled on this mission:</p> <p><i>The Parks Commission advances a long-term vision to ensure that parks, gardens, greenways, and natural areas are vital to Montpelier’s community identity and are forever available for the enjoyment of all.</i></p> <p>Note: Geoff would have liked additional language that conveys the message that the PC is a guardian / custodian as well. Commissioners decided that is the work of the parks staff.</p>
Vision	<p>After a lengthy conversation that explored multiple possibilities, Commissioners agreed to this vision:</p> <p><i>In Montpelier, our parks are a vibrant part of everyday life. No resident is more than a ten minute walk from a neighborhood park or playground and no more than a fifteen minute walk from a large protected natural area. A hub and spoke system of interconnected parks and greenways enhance opportunities for people, especially children, to move throughout the City on safe routes that maintain our connection to nature, ourselves, and each other.</i></p> <p>There was agreement to review the Greenprint and consider whether to edit it so that the vision articulated in it matches the one above.</p>
Work Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone will read the Greenprint from the perspective of

implementing it and take note of things that might need to be updated. The Greenprint will be a subject of discussion at the July meeting and subsequent meetings. One of the first steps is to get the critical City partners (Planning, Zoning, Conservation Commission, Council, etc.) to reestablish this as a priority for them. Geoff said that his priority beginning in August will be to work on implementing the Greenprint. While Geoff will take the lead, the Commissioners will join him to support selective efforts, such as an appearance at a Council meeting.

- Both Kassia and Carolyn asserted their interest in taking on the outside of PC meeting assignment of implementing the Greenprint. Kassia is also interested in leveraging monetary resources. Others indicated a willingness to take on outside of meeting tasks, but did not specify the exact area of interest.
- Kassia offered to begin to draft a strategic plan with objectives and actions to support those objectives, to be worked on at the July meeting.
- If the Commission meets in August, Geoff and Alec may not be able to attend as this is their busy season.
- Yvonne agreed to facilitate further meetings, if requested.