

Work Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, August 21, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

Council Members present: Council Member John Paulson, Council Member Steve Soteres, Council Member Chris Burnett, Council Member Jody Reichel, Council Member Tibby DeJulio, and Council Member Andy Bauman.

INVOCATION

Rabbi Brad Levenberg, Temple Sinai, offered the invocation.

STAFF DISCUSSION ITEMS

Recreation & Parks

1. 18-292 Update on Recreation & Parks Master Plan

Director of Recreation & Parks Michael Perry gave the Recreation and Parks Master Plan Update PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Rusty Paul asked if the survey includes National Parks.

Director of Recreation & Parks Perry stated it does include the National Parks.

Council Member John Paulson asked about the prioritized needs of the survey that state walking/jogging/running or events and clubs. He asked if that is the same as walking trails.

Director of Recreation & Parks Perry responded no. The items on the survey are from a program perspective.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio stated the City has constructed a tremendous number of sidewalks. He asked if the sidewalks in the City are considered part of the parks and recreation system, since they are used frequently.

Director of Recreation & Parks Perry stated he does not think they are included. The multi-purpose trails over six feet wide are considered in this survey.

Council Member DeJulio stated the chart shows the participation rate in recreation programs is 20%. That seems exceptionally low. He asked why that is.

Director of Recreation & Parks Perry stated part of the reason is the entire City was not surveyed. When you look at a lot of the residential developments north of Abernathy, none of those developments participated in the survey. This area is where many of the City's larger parks are located. He is not sure if people understood the questions and realize that Morgan Falls Park is part of the City.

Mayor Paul stated when the question asks if someone has participated in recreation programs, an individual may have gone to a park, but not participated in any formal activity. He asked if that would be considered participation.

Director of Recreation & Parks Perry stated the question states "offered by the City of Sandy Springs". If the individual does not associate the program or activity with the City, they will probably answer no.

Mayor Paul asked if visiting a park is considered participating in a recreation program.

Director of Recreation & Parks Perry stated he hopes it would be counted.

Mayor Paul stated the way the question is worded may be part of the problem. The question could be rephrased to state, "Has your household visited a park or participated in a recreation program offered by the City of Sandy Springs?"

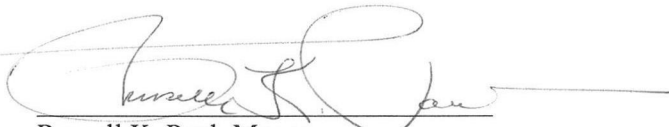
Council Member Steve Soteres asked if the area from Abernathy Road going north is part of the survey.

Director of Recreation & Parks Perry responded no. The follow up survey will provide good information for the entire City. This information will help when we start planning for the core area that includes the downtown area. We will gain insights into how the north end is different from the remainder of the City. How we use that information will be part of the implementation. This will be good information to have.

Council Member Jody Reichel stated she ran on one of the new Windsor Parkway trails this morning and she loved it.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Date Approved: September 4, 2018


Russell K. Paul, Mayor
Michael D. Casey, City Clerk