



Commission on Naming Public Properties

Department of City Planning

200 Ross Street

1st Floor Hearing Room

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2016

2:05 PM

Commission Members Present: Mike Gable, Raymond Gastil, and Jim Griffin

Staff Present: Lisa Ray, Josh Lippert, Nick Chub

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Mr. Gastil the minutes of the January 4, 2016 meeting were approved. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Mr. Gable stated that there was no correspondence.

Items for Review

a) Approval of meeting dates for the remainder of 2016 as follows:

- July 11, 2016 at 2 p.m.
- October 3, 2016 at 2 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Mr. Gastil, all ayes. Motion carried.

b) Proposed Knoxville Incline Greenway

Tim Dolan of the Hilltop Alliance presented request to name the city-owned vacant lot along Arlington Avenue, Brosville Street, Fritz Street, Hartford Street, Manor Street, and Welsh Way in Allentown and South Side Slopes are proposed to come a City – designated greenway, as they are steeply-sloped hillsides otherwise unsuitable for development. The proposed name of this greenway Knoxville Incline Greenway, reflects the history of the site as the location of the former Knoxville Incline which rose from the South Side Flats and through the South Side Slopes up to the Allentown business district. The parcels to be included in the greenway contain the rail bed adjacent to the former incline.

Mr. Gastil asked if the incline was always named Knoxville Incline.

Mr. Dolan said he believes it was once named the Pittsburgh Incline then Knoxville.

Mr. Gable questioned whether the commission should approve this based on the bylaws.



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Mr. Griffin stated he believed it is and the commission would like to make changes to the bylaws.

On motion by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Mr. Gastil, all ayes. Motion carried.

c) Proposed Ridgemont Greenway

Josh Lippert of the Department of City Planning presented the proposed naming of Ridgemont Greenway. The Greenway will consist of 78 parcels of undeveloped city property totaling 41.306 acres, mostly on steeply wooded slopes with various trees and utility rights of way and used by city residents for nature walks. The area is heavily undermined and is unsuitable for development but provides valuable green space for nearby residents. The area has been used by local residents for over 40 years. The association would like to take on the stewardship activities by conducting annual clean-ups, deterring illegal dumping, and maintaining hiking trails.

Ms. Catherine Walsh of the Ridgemont Community spoke in support of the plan stating that it is an environmental asset.

Mr. Gastil asked if any other names were proposed.

Mr. Lippert stated not to his knowledge

Mr. Gable asked if this greenway was entirely in the Ridgemont Community.

Mr. Lippert stated yes.

On Motion by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Mr. Gastil approving the naming the proposed Ridgemont Greenway. Roll call, all ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Lippert stated that grant money received will go towards the maintenance and the stewardship of the greenways.

Mr. Lippert discussed trail naming with the Commission. He would like to adopt a policy with the help of the bylaws and the addressing procedures. A lot of our regional parks have unofficial trail names. He would like to grandfather those current names in and use guidelines similar to those used by the addressing committee no duplicates, not to long and street duplication (unless it is in close proximity of the trail), no numbers, suffixes due the emergency response system.



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Mr. Griffin stated that he agreed that only grandfathering the existing names.

Mr. Lippert stated that there is one duplicated name to his knowledge and he will work with renaming that.

Mr. Gastil stated that this is a working policy.

Mr. Lippert said that we will add the trail suffix to it for the emergency response system.

The Commission will review the materials submitted by Mr. Lippert and recommend approval at the next meeting.

Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Griffin and seconded by Mr. Gastil, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Jim Griffin, Secretary

