

PKID Meeting: Spring Meadows

Thursday February 24, 2011

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Municipal Center I

Gilbert Staff: Rick Acuna, Jason Kerby, Laura Lorenzen

Attendees: Larry Clark, Bruce Beauchamp, Wayne Scharich, Dave Goodman, Merlyn Coon, Bruce Nielsen, Joe and Pat Braverman, Darren Griffith, H. Griffin, Craig McDonald, Jill Humpherys

Agenda item: Large Basin Improvements

A resident questioned if the improvements will have an effect on the yearly maintenance contract. Staff explained that the current contracts have options for renewal until FY13/14. At that time services will need to be rebid. There is a possibility that the landscape maintenance costs will increase once it is rebid. Mowing turf is less labor intensive than raking rocks and pruning shrubs. However, the water usage due the reduction of turf should offset this increase. It was also pointed out, by a resident, that moving the water away from the walls will likely increase the life of the wall.

Another resident questioned staff about the spray heads on the walls. Staff explained that they have been working on the spray heads to eliminate the spray on the walls. The resident questioned why it is necessary to move the spray heads away from the wall when they are currently not an issue. Staff explained that while they make every attempt to keep the spray away from the walls, there are things that they can't control. Wind, a head that is out of adjustment, and vandalism to the heads are examples of these items. The landscape architect explained that the side slopes will be on a different watering cycle than the turf areas. The plants and trees in the decomposed granite will be watered less often for a larger period of time.

The landscape architect calculated that approximately 15,190 square feet of turf would be converted to decomposed granite. They estimate that this will result in approximately a 30% decrease in water usage. Staff explained that this decrease will not be seen in FY12 due to the construction. The saving will be realized in FY13.

Residents stated that they need to draw people to the park. Having the amenities that are in the landscape master plan will allow residents to hold more events in the park. If the park is used by families, it will discourage vandals from being in the basin.

The landscape architect explained that are numerous options for amenities. With the master plan, it is important that there is an overall plan. This will provide us with a direction to proceed. For example; it is important to know where the play structures will be located. With this in mind, the irrigation system can be drawn to accommodate the locations. If the plan is not in place, there is a possibility of additional funds being spent in future years to fix mistakes made in prior years.

The location of the play structures was then discussed. Three options are available for placement of the small structure. It can be kept in the current location, moved to the same location as the large structure, or moved in the area where the volleyball court currently is. By combining the two structures, only one ADA compatible sidewalk will be needed.

A resident asked if it was decided to reduce the number of plantings, will it be possible to add more at a later date if residents decided to so. The landscape architect explained that the new irrigation system will have capacity for additional plants.

After reviewing the various alternatives to the master plan the following votes were taken by show of hands:

Residents voted 10-1 in favor of 30% less plantings. This will reduce the engineers estimated budget by \$5,000.

Residents voted 10-0 in favor of leaving the volleyball court in its current location.

Residents voted 4-5 against leaving the small play structure in the current location.

Residents voted 5-4 in favor of moving the small play structure to the same location as the larger structure.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.