

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARK PROPERTY – 10/4/2011

The purpose of this item is for the Board of Aldermen to discuss the potential future development of

Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, scheduled for construction in 2013.

Daniel Smith, a concerned citizen, asked the Board to consider keeping the future development of the park compatible with the community gardens that are on the property. He presented the Board with a copy of his documentary called, “Growing It Here, Growing It Now” that features the Carrboro Community Garden and the Growing Healthy Kids Gardens at MLK Park.

Maria Hitt, the project manager for the Growing Healthy Kids Community Garden, asked that the Board continue to support the gardens at the MLK Park and consider including them, permanently, in the future master plan for the MLK Park site. She thanked the Board for allowing the gardens at MLK Park.

Alderman Lavelle asked how often the park is mowed and if there are trash containers. George Siez, the Town’s Public Works director, stated that the park is on a regular mow schedule and that the multi-purpose field is cut lower than the other areas. There are no trash bins at the Park.

Alderman Haven-O’Donnell asked staff to look into the cost of leveling and lining the multi-purpose field. Alderman Slade asked staff to research why the pond was filled in and the feasibility of creating a new one. Alderman Broun asked that the Community Garden rules be made available to the Board.

The following resolution was introduced by Alderman Gist and seconded by Alderman Coleman:

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE STAFF REPORT ON THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

PARK AND PROVIDING FURTHER DIRECTION

Resolution No. 21/2011-12

WHEREAS, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen seek to ensure that its existing and proposed policies, regulations, actions and plans are appropriate and beneficial, and;

WHEREAS, the staff has prepared a report on the approved design of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park and other information concerning the property.

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen has received the staff report and discussed the future development of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Carrboro Board of Aldermen that they accept the report and provide the following direction to Town staff:

- 1) Preserve space for the Community Gardens with the understanding that the Gardens will be incorporated into a future MLK Park master plan; and,
- 2) Remove the word “future” from the current sign; and,
- 3) Provide the Board with information on how, and if, attributes may be phased into the Park without triggering a development application. This information should also include

estimated costs.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote received the following vote and was duly adopted this 4th day of October 2011:

Ayes: Dan Coleman, Sammy Slade, Lydia Lavelle, Mark Chilton, Joal Hall Broun, Jacquelyn Gist,

Randee Haven-O'Donnell

Noes: None

Absent or Excused: None