

Item 23-0456: Resolution #4-R-23 To Support Pollinator & Wildlife Habitats in Ellen Kort Peace Park

Parks and Recreation Committee

Mon, Apr 24, 2023 6:30PM

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 07:17

Which takes us to 23-0456 resolution 4-R-23 to support pollinator and wildlife habitats in Ellen Kort Peace Park. Before we make any motion, I like to call on Chris Behrens.

Attorney Christopher Behrens 07:37

Thank you Chair. Just a bit prior to this evening's meetings, it was brought to my attention that this item did not initially appear on some of the published agendas, and from what I understand that may have been due to a technical glitch with the system that the clerk's office uses in entering these. At some point the item did appear.

Attorney Christopher Behrens 08:04

The concern is, as most of the members are aware, there's a 24-hour notice requirement that needs to be satisfied. And right now, based on the information that's presented, I don't have enough information to know if that 24 hour was satisfied. So out of an abundance of caution, what I would ask the committee to consider is holding this item. And then in doing so, if it is a time sensitive issue, subject to the chair's approval, a special meeting could be scheduled prior to Council next week to take the item up at that time. And that would at least allow the opportunity to ensure proper notice has been made. If there were any members of the public that didn't get noticed this time around, they would have the notice and they could appear. That would be my recommended course of action.

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 09:03

Motion to hold for two weeks.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 09:06

Not two weeks. Until...

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 09:07

'Til the next meeting.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 09:10

Park and Rec meeting?

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 09:11

That would be my motion.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 09:12

For two weeks?

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 09:13

Yep.

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Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 09:14

Okay. Motion's been made to hold for two weeks. Any discussion?

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 09:23

That's—I mean, I guess we could ask the chair if you'd call a special meeting prior to Council to take this up. That's—

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 09:28

It's your resolution.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 09:29

I would ask the chair to take a special meeting before next Common Council to address this.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 09:36

Now we've got a problem because we've got a

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 09:38

We can vote against it.

Attorney Christopher Behrens 09:39

The motion is to hold it for two weeks at this point. That's the motion that's on the table.

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 09:44

Could I ask Director of Park and Recs what influence a vote next week or two weeks has on action in the Peace Park? Is there an intent to do anything with the grass out there before...

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 09:56

No

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 09:57

May 15? Yeah, I mean, I guess. Does this have any influence two weeks or one week?

Director Dean Gazza (Parks, Recreation, and Facilities) 10:03

Not that I know of. We'll be—if the weather gets conducive, we'll be out there and the contractor will be seeding the areas that were disturbed for putting in the trail. The geese were mowing the grass quite a bit today, when I went by there. I'm not sure we're gonna get any grass to grow down there for some time.

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 10:30

I guess I feel like it's not imperative. I'm opening to calling a special meeting. I don't know if it's necessary. But I guess I'd like to hear from the rest of the committee if they want to vote on this sooner than only for two weeks or.

Alderson Patrick Hayden (District 7) 10:47

Go ahead, Pat.

Alderson Patrick Hayden (District 7) 10:48

I'm sorry. Thank you, Chair. Based on what I'm hearing here, I don't see a need to rush this forward. If nothing is going to be done in between then and our next meeting, then there really isn't much of value to me to have a special meeting to move up action.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 11:05

Alderson Hartzheim. Did I see you?

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 11:08

District 13, please, Chair. Thank you. My concern—thank you, chair. My concern would be if we had this before a Council meeting, if there are a lot of folks who would like to speak, we could end up with a very large contingent of a lot of pushing back and a time delay in that regard. Thanks.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 11:27

I agree with you on that.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 11:32

I see no issue in holding it for two weeks. I mean, it's—since we're just seeding anyway.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 11:38

Okay.

Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 11:39

I think that that's alright.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 11:40

So, we do have a motion and a second to hold it for two weeks. Okay, who made the second? All right. Motion has been made and seconded to hold for two weeks. All in favor signify by saying aye. All those opposed? Chair votes aye. Five, zero. Thank you for your understanding.