

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: June 14, 2010
	Agenda Item No. 43 Roll Call No. [Roll Call] Communication No. <u>10-326</u> Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Director of Parks and Recreation

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Grading and Landscape Changes within Greenwood Park.

SYNOPSIS:

Approve recommendation for Grading and Landscape Changes within Greenwood Park, as proposed by Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

Amount: N/A

Funding Source: N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On July 8, 1940, Ordinance No. 4580 was passed entitled, “AN ORDINANCE to establish a site at Greenwood Park, in the City of Des Moines, Iowa, for an art gallery and museum to be erected and maintained by the Trustees of the Edmundson Memorial Foundation for public use and not for private profit”. On March 4, 1948, that Ordinance was amended by Ordinance No. 4984 that changed the name of the Edmundson Memorial Foundation to Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc. The boundaries of this site were designated by Grand Avenue, Forty-Fifth Street, Park Road (now known as Myron and Jacqueline Blank Parkway) and a south boundary that was a line drawn four hundred thirty feet off the intersection of Polk Boulevard and Grand Avenue. The Trustees were to maintain the portion of the park that was granted to them under the ordinance to the satisfaction of the Park Board.

The Edmundson Art Foundation, Inc. is planning on expanding the Des Moines Art Center approximately 9,000 square feet to enlarge the loading dock and provide needed storage and support services space. This expansion will be on the west side of the building and essentially below ground level with a green roof. There are two existing oak trees (42” DBH and 36” DBH) and three hemlocks (12” DBH, 10” DBH and 9” DBH) that will be removed due to this building addition. There are two other oak trees in the general grading area of a proposed new drive that will have retaining walls installed to minimize the impacts to these trees. Other trees outside of the expansion area will have a construction fence erected to protect the trees from any disturbance during the construction.

As per the City's tree mitigation policy, nine trees are required to be planted due to the removal of the two oak trees and none are required for the hemlocks. The Art Center has proposed planting twelve trees within this location and in Greenwood Park to exceed the mitigation requirements as requested from the Park and Recreation Board.

Staff contacted adjacent neighborhood association board members alerting them of this project coming before the Park and Recreation Board as an action item for this meeting. There has been only one inquiry to see the site plan and the President of Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association submitted an email regarding the proposed addition and urging the Park and Recreation Board to approve the proposed plans. Jeff Fleming, Director of the Des Moines Art Center, has contacted neighborhood leaders and provided site tours to several Des Moines Park Board Members and staff explaining the current situation of the loading dock and storage areas of the facility, and the necessity for expansion.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: April 27, 2010

Roll Call Number: 10-032

Action: Park and Recreation Board received and filed request from the Des Moines Art Center.

Date: May 25, 2010

Roll Call Number: 10-041

Action: Park and Recreation Board approved an addition to the Des Moines Art Center.

Date: December 17, 2008

Docket Number: ZON2008-00190

Action: Zoning Board of Adjustment granted an Amendment to a Special Permit for use of a building on public grounds and an institution of educational character.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.