Agenda Item Number: REP 29-15  
Department Source: Community Development, Parks & Recreation  
To: City Council  
From: City Manager & Staff  
Council Meeting Date: 2/16/2015  
Re: Report: Historic Preservation Commission request for sale of accumulated architectural salvage materials stored in Rock Quarry Park

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo  
Supporting documentation includes: None

Executive Summary

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is seeking Council authorization for the sale of accumulated architectural salvage items at a storage facility in Rock Quarry Park. All proceeds of the sales would be deposited in a City account. The Commission recommends that the proceeds from sale be invested in and used for historic preservation programs and services.

Ordinance Section 17-122 prohibits the sale of items in Columbia’s parks except by any regularly licensed concessionaire acting under the authority and regulation of the Parks and Recreation Director. This special authorization is reserved for youth sports organizations so that they may raise funds and offer concession items to their program participants. P&R staff supports HPC’s request for a sale of these items, but believes that formal Council approval is required.

Discussion

The City of Columbia Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) currently has architectural materials donated prior to the demolition of properties that are 50 years old or older. The items have been acquired with permission and voluntary contribution of property owners and remelters. Inventory currently includes several doors, windows, light fixtures, sinks and other architectural items typical to 1930-1960 construction.

Since 2008, these items were first stored in the Heibel-March building with the permission of the Parks and Recreation Department. With the successful renovation and reuse of the Heibel-March, items were relocated in 2014 to the former sewer treatment building located at 800 W. Stadium. With planned improvements to enhance the use of the sewer treatment building in the future, the HPC is presently working with the Parks and Recreation Department to move the materials to a former RV garage on the Rock Quarry Park property (2002 Grindstone Parkway).

The Historic Preservation Commission would like to make these materials available to homeowners who are looking for age-appropriate items for renovation projects.
Working with the Parks and Recreation Department, the Community Development Department and the New Century Fund (Columbia Community Trust), the Historic Preservation Commission would like to develop a formal process for the acquisition and reuse of these materials.

The Historic Preservation Commission currently has the authority to:

- To inform and educate the citizens of the City of Columbia concerning the historic, archaeological and architectural heritage of the City through publication or sponsorship of maps, newsletters, brochures, pamphlets, programs and seminars by the City, the HPC, or other appropriate parties.
- To advise and assist owners of historically significant property or structures on physical and financial aspects of preservation, renovation, rehabilitation, and reuse.

Since the materials are being stored at the Rock Quarry Park garage, HPC requests a sale of the items including promoting the sale and posting temporary signs in the park on the day of the event. Proceeds would be deposited in the New Century Fund, Columbia Community Trust, or other dedicated fund for historic preservation programs and services. P&R staff will work with HPC to make sure there is no conflict with park reservations on the day of the sale.

The New Century Fund was the preferred vehicle for collecting proceeds and the way the Office of Cultural Affairs collects and distributes proceeds from the Poster Party might serve as a model. At this point, HPC expects the proceeds from the sale of these items would be minimal. Staff understands that the Columbia Community Trust might be the more appropriate destination as the New Century Fund is being phased out.

In the City of Columbia’s Code of Ordinances, Section 17-122 prohibits the sale and such display of any article or thing in the parks except for any regularly licensed concessionaire acting under the authority and regulation of the P&R Director. This exemption is used to allow youth sports organizations such as the Sporting Columbia Soccer, Diamond Council, and Columbia Youth Football League the opportunity to offer concessions to their participants as long as the revenue is returned to the program. Parks and Recreation staff supports HPC’s request to sell their items, but believes that formal Council approval is required.

The Historic Preservation Commission views this effort as a great opportunity to connect homeowners that are renovating properties with materials that could otherwise go to the landfill. The deposit of proceeds from the sale of the items in an appropriate fund to support historic preservation is a secondary benefit.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None.
Long-Term Impact: None.
Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Parks, Recreation and Greenways
Strategic Plan Impact: Health, Safety and Wellbeing
Comprehensive Plan Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

Suggested Council Action

Direct staff to work with the Historic Preservation Commission and develop a process for the sales of architectural salvage materials stored in Rock Quarry Park.

Legislative History

None

Department Approved

City Manager Approved