

City Council Minutes – 6/23/1987

VII. GAZEBO IN DOWNTOWN PARK, COUNCIL APPROVES USE OF LAND, CONCEPT AS PRESENTED

Mr. Kalajian reminded Council the concept of a gazebo in a park for band concerts and other forms of entertainment was turned down a few years ago because of the proposed location in West Blalock Park, which the Comprehensive Plan states will be used as an arboretum and botanical garden as a Policy. A committee was formed to look for a new site.

Mr. Kalajian said he and Bob Vedder had conducted quite a bit of research, contacting the county Parks and Recreation Department for a possible scheduling of events, the Garden Club for plantings, etc. The City Parks and Recreation Board unanimously approved the new site of the NW quadrant of Downtown Park, using the existing grass lawn for seating. He showed a rendering of the proposed structure by Connie Campbell. Original design was by Timothy Gaus, who donated his services.

Mr. Vedder said many firms and people have already been approached about making donations for the construction, and it appears it will not be difficult to raise money for the project.

VII. GAZEBO IN DOWNTOWN PARK, COUNCIL APPROVES USE OF LAND, CONCEPT AS PRESENTED (Continued)

Mr. Kalajian mentioned figures of from \$20,000 to \$50,000 for the fund raising job. He asked for Council approval of the concept, and use of Downtown Park for the site. He said there will be a request to the City at budget time for electricity costs and the construction of a sidewalk around the gazebo. More specifics will be given then.

Mr. Kalajian said the plans do not include restrooms, but if that much money is raised, they might be included. He said at present only short programs are planned, not two to three hour-long concerts.

Mrs. Battey moved to approve the land in Downtown Park and the concept of a gazebo to be constructed there, and to allow Mr. Kalajian and Mr. Bob Vedder to go forth and raise the money for construction. Motion seconded by Mr. Calamaras.

Under discussion, Mrs. Battey said her understanding was that the gazebo would be for everybody, all age groups.

Mr. Yeatts said he would like to see it constructed in a fashion that it could be picked up and moved in the event the location does not work out. Also, he would like to see the design closer to the Italian Renaissance theme. Mr. Kalajian said the more you do, the higher the cost, and Italian Renaissance is very ornate. He said the attempt will be to make it look nice and fit in.

On voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

Historical Commission Minutes - 1/14/1988

CENTENNIAL

Dr. Murphy introduced the new publicity chairman for the Centennial, Karen Caillouette and read her resume to the Commission. Dr. Murphy said the Chamber of Commerce will be working closely with the Centennial Committee and with Mrs. Caillouette. Dr. Murphy felt the Centennial is going along nicely and knows that Mrs. Caillouette will tie everything together. Mrs. Caillouette said it was a pleasure to be working with the Centennial and has ideas for promoting the Centennial. Dr. Higel stated he was grateful for the leadership of Dr. Murphy and Mr. Shrode for the Centennial. They approached the Board of County Commission last month and received \$25,000 for the Centennial. Mr. Shrode stated that the weekend of March 12 will host the St. Patrick's Day parade, the Fossil Show and the Homestyles 88 Show and it will probably bring in over 10,000 people in the City of Venice.

Mr. Place thought it might be appropriate now to consider a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Board, for their recommendation to City Council, to change the name of the Downtown Park, where the Gazebo is, to Centennial Park, in advance of the celebration so that all of the festivities can be billed as being in Centennial Park. Technically it is called Downtown Park but it used to

be called Veterans Memorial Park. If the City does not wish to change the entire block to Centennial Park, they might consider declaring the green area around the Gazebo and the area where the KMI monument is located, Centennial Park and leave the old memorial alone.

Mrs. Crompton moved that a recommendation be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Board that they suggest to the City that the park, bounded by Venice Avenue, Tampa Street, Nassau St. and Nokomis Street to be called Centennial Park. Dr. Murphy seconded. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

Parks & Recreation Board Minutes - 2/16/1988

Centennial Park. The Board unanimously voted to request City Council to name the park where the Gazebo is located as **Centennial Park**.

Historical Commission Minutes - 6/16/1988

NAMING OF PARKS

Dr. Higel asked Councilman Miller to look into the status of naming of parks. This Commission recommended to the Parks and Recreation Board that Block 51 (Downtown Park) be named Centennial Park and also that Linear Park (that has never been named) be named Heritage Park. The Parks and Recreation Board agreed with the recommendation and was to pass on the recommendation to the City Council.

Mr. Place said the thought was that Centennial Park would be named so that a dedication of the park would be held on the July 4th weekend.

CENTENNIAL REPORT

Mr. Shrode stated that a Antique Fashion Show was held last evening and it was a success. The July 4th weekend will be a big weekend with various events taking place. Everything is going along quite well.

Mr. Shrode stated he visited John Worthington and a plaster cast of the model has been completed. The mold will be done shortly. Mr. Shrode said he thought the Centennial Committee will pay for the plaque.

Mr. Shrode said the Centennial Committee funds are in good shape and a decision will be made as to where the remaining funds will be spent.

Dr. Higel thanked Mr. Shrode and Dr. Murphy for all the work they have done on the Centennial.

City Council Minutes – 6/28/1988

VII. RECOMMENDATION FROM PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD TO RENAME TWO PARKS, COUNCIL APPROVES

Councilman Miller, in a scheduled Presentation, requested Council to approve the recommendation made by the Venice Historical Commission last January to rename Linear Park to Heritage Park and to rename Downtown Park to Centennial Park. In February the recommendations were endorsed by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Mr. Miller moved to rename the two parks as suggested by the advisory boards. Motion seconded by Mrs. Hall.

Mayor Case said the American Legion has a sentimental attachment for the spot of a small memorial constructed in 1945. Mrs. Hall suggested that small area be set aside. Mr. Miller agreed to incorporate that stipulation in his motion.

On voice vote, motion passed unanimously.