

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Dear Mayor Massingill and City Council Members,

My name is Niccole Maurici, and I have resided at 4906 Timberline Drive since relocating here in 2017 and I have been a Park Commission member since 2019. In my years of serving on this commission, I have never known of a commission member(s) to leave a meeting due to the interactions with a City Council liaison. During the September 6, 2023, Park Commission meeting, two Park Commission members left the meeting as a direct result of Council Member Glasheen's actions. In addition to this, during my tenure, I have never known of a Park Commission agenda item to state: discussion and possible action asking for a replacement and new City Council liaison to the Park Commission. During the November 6, 2023, Park Commission meeting, this agenda item was discussed for 38 minutes and failed in a 2-2 vote, 1 abstained.

Repeatedly, Glasheen acts on his own accord without the consideration or inclusion of the Park Commission. On your agenda this evening, Glasheen acted without consideration of including or discussing with the Park Commission his intent for agenda item 19: Discussion and possible action regarding the role of the Park Commission.

This item has been a discussion item on the Park Commission agenda for the last couple of months. Additionally, the Park Commission has had discussion and has considered recommending to City Council to dissolve the Park Commission as our purpose is minimal, our impact is negligible and as Glasheen stated to us, "we act as a group of learned helplessness".

With all due respect, City Council Members act on their own accord and are able to get things done in the park because of their authoritative/borderline dictatorship position in the city. I have attempted to initiate capital improvement projects that stem off the Master Park Plan: off leash dog area, redesigned parking, and walking trail improvements to name a few. However, I have been informed that the Master Park Plan doesn't hold any credence and falls on deaf ears. To my knowledge, the Master Park Plan evolved from many years of research, community input and thousands of dollars spent with consultants. Despite our minimal results, the Park Commission is diligently working on creating what we believe are our roles and will make a recommendation to City Council.

The fact that Glasheen included this specific item on this month's agenda is premature, disrespectful to the Park Commission and is without support from me, a Park Commission member.

I ask that you respect and delay discussion on this agenda item until the Park Commission can discuss and formulate a recommendation of the role of the Park Commission to City Council.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

All the best,
Niccole Maurici
Cell: 214-868-0820