



Memorandum

Date: April 7, 2015
To: Bruce D. Glasscock, City Manager
From: Amy Fortenberry, Director of Parks & Recreation
Subject: Collinwood House

At the December 16, 2014 City Council meeting, the Council heard a discussion related to the Collinwood House located at Windhaven Meadows Park. Specifically, that the house was part of an 80 acre acquisition of land made in 2009 that completed the 124 acre park site. The house has not been incorporated into the plans for the park as it was originally deemed to not be of historic significance. Further, there is no funding to utilize the house in the park construction. The opinion of the house was revised when a new Historic Preservation Officer for the City was hired. After more research, it is believed that the house dates back to the 1860's. At the meeting in December, City Council directed staff to accept proposals to restore, protect, operate, and maintain the house in its current location.

On January 30, 2015, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was released which notified the public of an opportunity for "qualified parties" to enter into a lease agreement which would include rehabilitation and utilization of the Collinwood House in accordance with objectives stated within the RFP. The following requirement appeared in the RFP for determination of a "qualified applicant:" "Lessee will be responsible for all costs and liabilities related to the rehabilitation, use, operation, security, and maintenance of the House and Lease Area. Lease Area must be maintained to a condition equal to or better than the maintenance of the Park."

Using BidSync, 2479 vendors were invited to submit proposals. As of the bid end date (March 16, 2015), one (1) proposal was received from Heritage Farmstead Association. Following review by the City of Plano Purchasing Office and City Attorney's Office, this proposal has been deemed non-responsive. The proposal states "The Society would seek to match the city's investment." This expectation is in direct conflict with the requirement referenced in the first paragraph of this memorandum.

As there were no proposals that met the RFP criteria, staff recommends that an RFP be released to have the house moved at the expense of the selected proposer. A wood house like this is unlikely to survive in a public park setting and the location of this home, being isolated, poses an even larger risk for arson and vandals. Criteria for selection of a successful proposal will include giving priority to those who intend to keep the house in Plano and/or Collin County, have land to move the house to, and can demonstrate financial means to move and restore the house. The timeline for moving the house will also be a consideration. Until this matter is resolved, the construction documents for the park cannot be completed.