

MEMORANDUM

TO: Savannah - Chatham Historic Site and Monument Commission
FROM: Joe Shearouse Jr.
DATE: June 5, 2018
SUBJECT: Naming Petition Request- Windsor Park

Proposed Name: Windsor Park
Location: Southeast corner of Linwood Road and west of Woodley Road
Petitioner: Alderman Tony Thomas, TThomas@Savannahga.Gov

Staff Recommendation

1. Recommend approval of naming new park, 'Windsor Park', to highlight the Windsor Forest neighborhood it which it is a part of.

Requirements for naming newly created, acquired, unnamed or property (Sec.4-1102)

Criteria Requirement

- ✓ To honor and commemorate noteworthy persons associated with the City of Savannah, Chatham County, State of Georgia, or the United States of America.

Restrictions

- ✓ No Duplication of name

Considerations

- ✓ The number of residents and businesses directly affected;
- ✓ Community diversity;
- ✓ The historical significance of preexisting name or location;
- ✓ The appropriateness and compatibility of the request in relation to the existing area;
- ✓ The impact on emergency service delivery; and
- ✓ Continuity and stability.

Natural Person Request

N/A

Formal Request Requirements

- ✓ The precise location and description of the subject property;
- ✓ A thorough discussion regarding the history of the property or surrounding area, as may be applicable;
- ✓ The name, address and contact information of the requestor; and

- ✓ An endorsement by the current Mayor, an at-large alderman or the alderman representing the district in which the property is located.

Attachments

1. Applicant's petition request
 - a. District Six Alderman Tony Thomas endorsement as petitioner
 - b. Map of park location
2. City Staff comments on request
 - a. Brief History of Windsor Forest Neighborhood

May 4, 2018

City Manager's Office
City Hall
2 East Bay Street
Savannah, Georgia 31402

Re: Name Request- Windsor Park

To Whom It May Concern,

In accordance with the City of Savannah Code of Ordinances 'Section 4-1102. - Naming new facilities or public property', I am requesting that the properties located along the southeast corner of Linwood Road and Woodley Road be named Windsor Park.

The properties are located along the southeastern side of Linwood Road, west of Woodley Road. The park would be bounded by Linwood Road to the north, Woodley Road to the east, a community center to south and residential homes to the south and east. The property's land is comprised of trees and grassland.

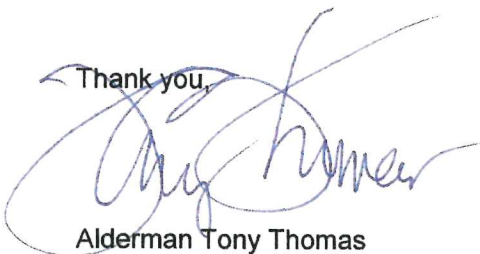
Each of these properties were residential lots until the homes were destroyed by a flood in June of 1999, after which they were purchased and converted into FEMA lots to prevent future flood damage. The properties are currently owned by the City of Savannah.

The name Windsor Park represents the Windsor Forest Neighborhood which was one of the first "planned" community developments in the state of Georgia. Developers originally catered the community toward young military families offering affordable homes near the Hunter Army/Air Force Base. Construction began in the 1950's with an emphasis on quality constructed, brick ranch homes set on substantial lots with elementary and high schools built within the neighborhood.

As the 6th District Alderman, I will be the primary petitioner for this request and can be contacted at TThomas@Savannahga.Gov or (912) 675-7465.

Please accept this letter and my signature below as my official endorsement of this request and begin the naming process under the rules listed within Section 4-1102.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tony Thomas', is written over the 'Thank you,' text.

Alderman Tony Thomas

6th District





WINDSOR FOREST, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Windsor Forest subdivision is located on land originally part of a 1,600 acre Crown Grant to [?] Flournoy who established Cedar Grove Plantation during the 18th century. By the mid-20th century, this land was owned by Donald Livingston. In the 1950s, Michael S. Robertson, Sr., a real estate executive for Roma Realty Company in Savannah, secured the land, engaged Eugene "Gene" R. Martini to survey the land, and negotiated for two years with prospective buyers until a local group of businessmen formed the Delta Land Corporation and purchased 1,000 acres of the former Cedar Grove Plantation for what would become the Windsor Forest subdivision. Delta Land Corporation, including investors Clayton Powell, Cecil Mason (developer), John Ahern (builder), Hugh Armstrong (developer/builder), E. B. Pinckney (builder), Norris Pindar, III, and William Bergen (architect), began a phased build out of Windsor Forest. Full development of the subdivision spanned the 1950s, 1960s and into the 1970s, and included several development and construction companies, including Meyhop Land & Development Company, Powell Homes, Inc., and Windsor Developers of Savannah, Inc.

Windsor Forest is considered significant from a planning perspective for its "total community plan." The original plans called for 3,000 home sites, 6 church sites, 4 school sites, 3 commercial sites, a fire station and a 9-hole golf course. Acreage was provided for both Savannah Country Day School (formerly the Pape School) and Armstrong College (now Georgia Southern University, Armstrong Campus). The initial phase developed 350 lots, and most of those homes were sold to military personnel stationed at Hunter Field. Ted Waters, described as a house designer not an architect, completed many of the house plans. The designs reflected post-World War II suburban residential design, indicating changes in both transportation patterns and building materials.

In a discussion with Beth Reiter, former Historic Preservation Officer, Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission, developer Clayton Powell said that the name Windsor Forest "had no particular meaning-just an English connotation."

Sources:

Finding Aid for MS 1790 Michael S. Robertson, Sr. papers on Windsor Forest, Georgia Historical Society.

"Windsor Forest," email from Mary [Beth] Reiter, Historic Preservation Officer, Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Officer, to Connie Pinkerton, Professor, Historic Preservation Department, Savannah College of Art & Design, September 25, 2002. Neighborhood File: Windsor Forest, Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission (hereafter MPC).

Windsor Forest Subdivision Survey, HIPR 706 Class, Fall 2002, Professor Connie Pinkerton, Savannah College of Art & Design (MPC).

Prepared by L. Spracher, May 23, 2018

Joe Shearouse01

From: Gordon Denney
Sent: Tuesday, May 22, 2018 2:38 PM
To: Joe Shearouse01; Luciana Spracher
Cc: Heath Lloyd
Subject: RE: Park Naming Request

Joseph,

Good afternoon. I see no issues with the requests for naming of these sites as proposed by Alderman Thomas. I only ask, similar to previous requests, that you please send a copy of this request to the current Chairman of the Park and Tree Commission, Ron Melander (ronmelander@gmail.com), as soon as you are able before the Historic Sites and Monuments Commission meeting it will be presented at for consideration. Since the Park and Tree Commission Chairman is a member of this committee, as a voice for the Park and Tree Commission, it would give the Commission a chance to discuss as a group for the Chairman to voice at the meeting. Thanks.

Gordon D. Denney, PLA

Director
Greenscapes Division
City of Savannah

From: Joe Shearouse01
Sent: Wednesday, May 9, 2018 10:43 AM
To: Gordon Denney <GDenney@Savannahga.Gov>; Luciana Spracher <LSpracher@Savannahga.Gov>
Cc: Heath Lloyd <hlloyd@Savannahga.Gov>
Subject: Park Naming Request

Morning,

Please provide any feedback on the attached naming request which falls under 'Section 4-1002 Naming new facilities or public property' by **May 24th**.

I am working on SOP for this process, separate of the ordinance, to help us better facilitate process.

Here is a summary of the request-

Veterans Memorial Park

Criteria Requirement

- ✓ To honor and commemorate noteworthy persons associated with the City of Savannah, Chatham County, State of Georgia, or the United States of America.

Restrictions

- Duplication of name?

Considerations

- ✓ The number of residents and businesses directly affected;
- ✓ Community diversity;
- ✓ The historical significance of preexisting name or location;
- ✓ The appropriateness and compatibility of the request in relation to the existing area;
- ✓ The impact on emergency service delivery; and
- ✓ Continuity and stability.

Natural Person Request

N/A

Formal Request Requirements

- ✓ The precise location and description of the subject property;
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- ✓ An endorsement by the current Mayor, an at-large alderman or the alderman representing the district in which the property is located.

Windsor Park

Criteria Requirement

- ✓ To commemorate local history, places, events or culture
- ✓ To strengthen neighborhood identity

Restrictions

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Thanks

Joseph C. Shearouse Jr.

City of Savannah | Jshearouse01@savannahga.gov

Office 912.651.6401 | Cell 912. 429.4084

2 East Bay Street, 31401 | Mailing: P.O. Box 1027, 31402



Joe Shearouse01

From: Luciana Spracher
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 5:52 PM
To: Joe Shearouse01
Cc: Heath Lloyd; Gordon Denney
Subject: RE: Park Naming Request

Hi Joe,

We found no duplication of names for either naming request in our records in the Archives.

Regarding the Windsor Park name request, my only comment is regarding the consideration of an alternate name of "Windsor Forest Park." The neighborhood's name is Windsor Forest and this is well documented in historical records in both the Municipal Archives' map collections, Metropolitan Planning Commission's neighborhood files, and the Georgia Historical Society's manuscript collections. Windsor Road is one of the main roads in Windsor Forest and an argument could be made that like the road, the park takes simply Windsor from the more complete name. I don't necessarily think that one name is better or more right than the other. I just think that it bears some additional consideration and discussion.

If you would like a brief historical summary of Windsor Forest neighborhood let me know and I can supply that.

Luciana

Luciana M. Spracher, C.A.

Municipal Records & Archives Director | Acting Clerk of Council
Phone: (912) 651-6411 | Email: lspracher@savannahga.gov
Discover the Archives at: www.savannahga.gov/MunicipalArchives

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Joseph C. Shearouse Jr.

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