

**Minutes**  
**PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
Regular Meeting  
Held at Civic Center – Conference Room 202  
March 22, 2011  
6:00 PM

*Members absent: Susan Fischer*

*City Council Liaison in attendance: Bob Townsend*

*PARD Staff in attendance: Michael Massey, Robbie Hazelbaker, Roger Scott, Melanie Sprott, Geoff Wright & Nichole Belford*

*CMO Staff in attendance: None*

**Attending Commission Members:**

Bob Dubey – Chairman

Jeremy Thomason – Member

Ed Hassler – Vice Chairman

Collin Hayes – Member

Kenan Brandes – Member

Jeff Wright – Member

Collin Hayes – Member

Amit Vaghela – Member

1. Chairman, Bob Dubey, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. Visitors: Previous Park & Recreation Commissioner Stephen Springs.
3. On a motion by Jeremy Thomason, seconded by Collin Hayes, the minutes of the February 8, 2011, regular meeting were approved as written.
4. Chairman's Report:
  - a. Introduction of the New Park and Recreation Commissioner – Jeff Wright:
    - Chairman Bob Dubey introduced the newest member of the Park & Recreation Commission Jeff Wright with a roundtable of introductions from Commissioners and staff present.
5. Presentation – CVB Dine Smart Dine Local Update:
  - Director Michael Massey Introduced Superintendent of the Convention and Visitors Bureau and Civic Center Geoff Wright and Sales Manager Nichole Belford who presented on a new hotel coming to Richardson, the impact of the Super Bowl, SWAC Basketball Tournament impact, current status of the Dine Smart Dine Local program, other area tournaments and the current CVB sales efforts in place.
6. April 15<sup>th</sup> Priority List – Discussion:
  - Staff and Park Commission members evaluated the drafts (submitted by Chairman Dubey, Ed Hassler, Kenan Brandes, & Collin Hayes) of the April 15<sup>th</sup> Priority List.
    - Ed Hassler: Believes that training cuts should be included in the document. Forward looking to “implement parts of the long range plan”.
    - Collin Hayes: Appreciates the shorter version that Chairman Dubey submitted for review. Would like it to explain more on staff needs, the purpose and reasons for those needs.
    - Kenan Brandes: Suggests using Chairman Dubey's document as the working draft.
    - Amit Vaghela: Also likes the shorter version of draft. Would like to see some of Collin's or Kenan's pieces return to the document.
    - Collin Hayes: Believes that the subject of losing staff is relevant. Also would like to see the importance of increased responsibilities return to the document. Would also like to include CMAR information.
    - Jeremy Thomason: Has concerns regarding the CMAR responsibilities and managing projects and staff.
    - Jeff Wright: Was able to review years past April 15<sup>th</sup> Priority Lists. Wants to focus on what can be done to platform the needs so the City Council can act on the April 15<sup>th</sup> Priority List items. Wants to spell out the reality of the situation and the expectations.

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- Kenan Brandes: Is the data in place to even make recommendations by the Park & Recreation Commission? If not, City Council can question the data and the Parks Department can provide that information. Doesn't want to submit anything based on assumptions.
- Amit Vaghela: Would like to add two sentences back to Chairman Dubey's document from Ed Hassler's original draft. Accepts the recommendations from the Parks & Recreation Department and the expertise that is given.
- Dave Anderson: If we are asking for the same items in place that were identical to the status of the highest budget year then the expectation should be that suggestions will be rejected from City Council. Are we being unrealistic and could target another point in time that reflects a more manageable budget? Also has issues with the Tree the Town Project and maintenance costs.
- Ed Hassler: Suggests adding "to raise service levels to required levels, changes will have to be made".
- Suggested changes through discussion will be made by staff and a draft will be presented at the next meeting.

7. The Director's Report:

a. Bond Program Update

a. Heights Recreation Center:

- Assistant Director Roger Scott updated the Commission on the current status of the Heights Recreation Center project.

b. Aquatics Center:

- Assistant Director Roger Scott updated the Commission on the current status of the Aquatics Center portion of the project.

c. Gymnastics Center:

- Assistant Director Roger Scott updated the Commission on the current status of the Gymnastics Center portion of the project.

d. Trails:

- Assistant Director Roger Scott updated members on the current status of the Central Trail project.

b. Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival Update:

- Assistant Director Robbie Hazelbaker updated the members on the status of the 2011 Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival. A presentation will be given at the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

8. Being no further business, on a motion by Amit Vaghela, seconded by Ed Hassler, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by*  
*Melanie Sprott, City of Richardson Parks & Recreation Department*

Minutes approved at April 12, 2011, regular meeting:

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Bob Dubey, Chairman