

Minutes
PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Regular Meeting
Held at Civic Center – Conference Room 202
April 8, 2014
6:00 PM

Members absent: Amit (AV) Vaghela

City Council Liaison in attendance: Kendal Hartley

PARD Staff in attendance: Michael Massey, Robbie Hazelbaker, Roger Scott and Kelli Keath

Attending Commission Members:

Kenan Brandes – Chairman

Susan Fischer – Member

Pam Krause - Member

Kevin Williams - Member

Jeremy Thomason – Vice Chairman

Gene Fitch, Jr. - Member

Jeanne Hooker – Member

Collin Hayes – Member

Visitors: None

1. Chairman, Kenan Brandes, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.
2. On a motion by Susan Fischer and seconded by Pam Krause, the minutes of the March 18th, 2014 regular meeting were approved with the exception of one spelling correction.
3. Chairman's Report
 - a) June Tour Discussion
 - Chairman Kenan Brandes and Director Michael Massey reviewed the suggestions from the March meeting. Members were given the opportunity to add to the list of proposed sites to visit. Some of the new suggestions included the Vitruvian Site, Addison, TX (Jeanne Hooker) and Canine Commons, Allen, TX (Gene Fitch Jr.)
 - A dot race vote was held on which ideas were most favored. Director Michael Massey will take the results and use them to create a route for the June 10th tour.
4. April 15th Priority List Discussion
 - Chairman Kenan Brandes opened discussion with members as they reviewed the April 15th Priority List draft.
 - On a motion by Susan Fischer and seconded by Kevin Williams the April 15th Priority List draft was approved with the exception of a few word choice changes and minor page layout edits. This motion passed unanimously.
 - Chairman Kenan Brandes and Director Michael Massey will modify the document to reflect the members requests in an effort to present to City Council prior to April 15th

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5. Director's Report

a) Dog Park Naming Discussion

- Assistant Director Roger Scott gave a recap on the dog park project. His presentation included information on the project's background, the dog park concept, the project's budget estimates and the next steps going forward.
- The members provided feedback and agreed that the project was coming along well and met their expectations.
- A discussion took place centered on the naming of the new dog park. The proposed names suggested at the regular scheduled March meeting were reviewed along with a few new others. Director Michael Massey asked the Commission for an action on this item but after much discussion, members decided to table the discussion and refrain from making a recommendation to City Council until after the June Tour.

b) Northrich Park Update & Naming Discussion With Action

- Assistant Director Roger Scott updated members on the Northrich Park. His presentation included the Small Neighborhood Park Vision Statement, the Park Development Goals and potential Programming Opportunities.
- Director Michael Massey shared the results from the March 27, 2014 public meeting. A dot race was conducted on which public elements the citizens felt were most important; a pavilion and shade trees were identified as the top two favored elements.
- Director Michael Massey asked the Commission for action on naming the new park at Northrich Elementary School. In addition to Northrich Park, member Kevin Williams added Bear Park as a new name for consideration.
- After a discussion; it was Northrich Park which won on a 5-3 vote as the name to be recommended onto City Council for consideration.

c) Central Trail Project Overview

- Assistant Director Roger Scott gave an overview on the Central Trail Project. He shared that this project is over 90% complete and that on Monday, June 2nd at 4:00 p.m. there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication.

d) Wildflower! & Cottonwood Art Festival Briefing

- Assistant Director Robbie Hazelbaker commented that recently an ad which covers both festivals made its way into Southwest Airlines Spirit Magazine. The one page ad is now available on Southwest Airlines and Airtran and is expected to reach a large audience.
- Mr. Hazelbaker shared that Cottonwood Art Festival has a new look and logo. He highlighted on the Visiting Artist Program which has 14 artists, 16 RISD Schools and will reach 960 students in classrooms.
- Mr. Hazelbaker gave a tour of the new Wildflower! Art and Music Festival's website and reported on the sponsors for this year's event.

- e) Gymnastic Center Overview and Review of the first year since relocating
 - Assistant Director Robbie Hazelbaker gave a presentation on the Gymnastics Center. His report included information how much Richardson Gymnastics has grown and changed since its opening.
 - i. Expanded the preschool program to include weekday evening classes
 - ii. Increased class offerings each hour of operations
 - iii. Bigger and more fun Friday Night Fun sessions
 - iv. Ability to host team competitions
 - v. Better seating and set up for Parents' Day and Recreation Skills Meet
 - vi. Gymnastics opportunities from beginner through high level competitive team and an opportunity to be an NCAA athlete in college.

- f) McKamy Spring Park Historical Marker Update
 - Director Michael Massey shared that City Council supports the McKamy Spring Park Historical Marker project and it will be budgeted for.

- 6. Park & Recreation Commission round table of community interest items.
 - Member Pam Krause congratulated the PARD staff on their hard work and presentations at the April 7th City Council meeting.
 - Member Jeremy Thomason wanted to thank the Parks Maintenance staff for fixing the backstop at Point North Park. He asked for an update on the recent rain received over the weekend. Assistant Director Roger Scott responded to this by adding that although we received ¾ of an inch that no plant or tree damage occurred
 - Susan Fischer educated the members on how the Sam Johnson Highway got its name.

Being no further business, on a motion by Pam Krause, seconded by Jeanne Hooker, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Kelli Keath, City of Richardson Parks & Recreation Department

Minutes approved at June 10th, regular meeting:
