

**Minutes**  
**PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Held at Civic Center – Conference Room 202**  
**April 14, 2015**  
**6:00 PM**

*Members Absent: Kevin Williams,*

*PARC Staff in attendance: Lori Smeby, Robbie Hazelbaker, Roger Scott, Sarah Burt*

**Attending Commission Members:**

Kenan Brandes – Chairman

Jeremy Thomason, Vice Chairman

Pam Krause, Member

Collin Hayes, Member

Jim Bailey - Member

Jeanne Hooker – Member

Gene Fitch, Jr. - Member

Susan Fischer, Member

**Visitors:** None

1. Chairman Kenan Brandes declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
2. Chairman Kenan Brandes stated that there were no visitors in attendance.
3. On a motion from member Jeremy Thomason and seconded by member Jeanne Hooker, the minutes from the March 17, 2015 meeting were approved.
4. Chairman's Report
  - Chairman Kenan Brandes did not have any updates on the 2015 Commission Initiatives.
  - Chairman Kenan Brandes led the Parks and Recreation Commission members in a discussion about the April 15<sup>th</sup> Priority List. Mr. Brandes gave the Commission members a copy of the letter to City Council that reflects Commission Priorities for the next year. Mr. Brandes and the other members collaborated to make final edits to the document, agreeing that it was now complete.
5. Parks & Recreation Department Director's Report
  - a) Athletic Fields Report
    - Director Lori Smeby informed the Parks and Recreation Commission members about the current conditions of athletic fields throughout the City, highlighting the impact of misuse of the fields. Mrs. Smeby explained that recent activity after rainy weather has negatively impacted soccer and baseball fields. Mrs. Smeby shared that the City is working to prevent the abuse of fields so that families and associations with permits can enjoy the fields in a safe manner.
  - b) Cottonwood Arts Festival

- Assistant Director Robbie Hazelbaker briefly discussed the upcoming Cottonwood Art Festival and some of the highlights of the event, including featured artist Kimber Fiebeger.

c) Recycling Program

- Assistant Director Roger Scott informed the members that a new Pilot Recycling Program is launching on Wednesday, April 15 in Heights and Huffhines Parks. 70 barrels are being installed next to trash cans in an effort to encourage recycling among the community. The program will be evaluated after a set amount of time to determine the program's success.

d) Social Media Presence

- Director Lori Smeby shared that a new Parks and Recreation Facebook Page has been created and encouraged members to follow the page online. Mrs. Smeby explained the goal of the page is to connect with the community more effectively and efficiently.

e) 2010 Bond Program/Capital Projects Update

1. Playground Renovations

- Assistant Director Roger Scott updated members on the status of the playground renovations. The playgrounds at Mimosa and Glenville Parks have been completed and are being used by residents. The playgrounds at Custer Park and Yale Park will be finished very soon as long as weather permits.

2. Update on Northrich Park

- Assistant Director Roger Scott informed the commission members that Northrich Park construction is progressing well, elaborating on the outdoor classroom that was recently installed for the use of students and teachers. The park should be complete in the middle of May with an anticipated ribbon cutting taking place before the end of the school year.

3. City Entry Signs

- Assistant Director Roger Scott gave an update on the City Entry Signs project, stating that the sign on Plano Road near the State Farm building is now complete. Mr. Scott explained that the project is moving from west to east and that the sign at Waterview will be next. After Waterview, signs will be placed at Custer, Jupiter, and Renner. All signs will intersect with the Bush Turnpike with the exception of Renner, which will intersect with Murphy Road.

4. Dog Park

- Assistant Director Roger Scott stated that the dog park recently had restrooms installed and irrigation for the park is set to begin soon. Weather has affected the progress of construction, but Mr. Scott is anticipating that the park will be open in the middle of June.

6. Parks and Recreation Commission Round Table of Community Interest Items

- Chairman Kenan Brandes opened up the conversation for community interest items from the Parks and Recreation Commission. Member Susan Fischer mentioned that City Council member Kendal Hartley will not be the liaison anymore for the Parks Commission as a result of his term being complete. Members agreed that they would like to invite Mr. Hartley to attend the next meeting in an effort to express appreciation for all he has done. Mr. Brandes informed the members that there will be a tour on June 9, followed by a brief meeting. Mr. Brandes suggested that the Parks and Recreation Commission members collaborate on locations they would like to tour in an effort to visit as many sites as possible.

7. Adjournment

- Being no further business, Chairman Kenan Brandes declared the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Sarah Burt, City of Richardson Parks & Recreation Department*

Minutes approved at June 9, 2015 regular meeting:

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