

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 411 W. Arapaho Rd.
City Manager's Conference Room, 202
June 13, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Member Absent: Jeremey Thomason and Gene Fitch

PARC Staff in attendance: Director Lori Smeby, Assistant Director Dan Baker, Superintendent of Park Planning Kurt Beilharz, Superintendent of Athletics & Aquatics Chris Cottone and Kelli Cott

Attending Commission Members:

Jeanne Hooker - Member
Jim Bailey - Member
Kevin Williams - Member
Pam Krause - Member

Daniel Burdette – Member
Steve Hendry - Member
Victor Garza - Member
Mabel Simpson – City Council PARC Liaison

Visitors: None

1. Member Pam Krause declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. There were no visitors in attendance.
3. On a motion from member Daniel Burdette, member Jim Bailey, the minutes from the April 11th regular meeting were approved with the exception of one typo.
4. Student Design Project – Memorial Park
 - Superintendent of Park Planning, Kurt Beilharz briefed members on the rich history of Memorial Park and described a recent “just for fun” project conducted by students from the University Texas at Arlington which included a park model with proposed renovations. Their models suggested curvy flows, running and/or standing water areas, sound barrier walls and added parking spaces.
5. Pool Assessment/Maintenance Strategies
 - Director Lori Smeby reviewed the current conditions of the city's four neighborhood pools and the three fountain/water features. She highlighted the significant progress which was made in FY17 to improve the condition of the pools. Mrs. Smeby also included a briefing on the proposed FY18 maintenance strategies which were broken down into the following categories; safety, pool codes, preventative maintenance, efficiency improvements and cosmetic improvements.
6. Proposed Fees for Athletics & Recreation
 - Director Lori Smeby & Superintendent of Athletics & Aquatics, Chris Cottone discussed the department's goal, which is to optimize the use of fees so that they stay competitive. Certain fees might be adjusted to meet that goal. Fees up for consideration involve participation, classes, tournaments, park rentals and/or recreation membership's user fees. Mrs. Smeby will provide updates as these proposed changes develop.

7. Trail Visits

- Member Pam Krause addressed the need to visit the city's nine trails annually. Some of the items that will be observed include general condition, the environment, incomplete connections and areas of concern. The trails were then split between the members as follows:
 - i. Kevin Williams – Central Trail
 - ii. Jeanne Hooker – Huckfinn Trail
 - iii. Jim Bailey – Breckinridge Trail
 - iv. Victor Garza – Owens Trail
 - v. Steve Hendry – Duck Creek Trail, Mark Twain Trail and Glenville Trail
 - vi. Gene Fitch – University Trail
 - vii. Daniel Burdette – Renner Trail

8. September Tour

- Director Lori Smeby opened a discussion regarding places of interest for the tour in September. Some of the suggestions included; inclusive playgrounds, splash/spray grounds, the Rowlett Recreation Center, Fox Creek Park, City Line Park and to visit the pool building renovations here in Richardson. It was decided that the September tour will take place with a 5:30pm start on September 12th.

9. **Wildflower!** Arts & Music Festival

- Director Lori Smeby gave an update on **Wildflower!** Arts & Music Festival noting that although the numbers were slightly down, the weather was in our favor. Overall the 25th Anniversary was successful; everyone enjoyed the music line-up and no big issues occurred.
- Member Pam Krause noted that she enjoyed the additional seating near the State Farm Plaza Stage and suggested that drink "tabs" sold with Friends of The Festival packages be redeemable at all drink stations.
- City Council member Mabel Simpson and member Kevin Williams both expressed that they loved the new layout of the site.

10. Projects Update

- Assistant Director, Dan Baker informed the members that the Fox Creek Park project is 80% complete with an estimated finish date set sometime in the Fall of 2017.
- TX Dot has sent its final review comments for The University Trail, and our consultant is working on wrapping up revisions based on that feedback.
- Assistant Director, Dan Baker applauded the work done on the pools suggesting a tour when time permits.

11. Parks & Recreation Commission Round Table of Community Interest Items

- Member, Jeanne Hooker feels that all of the Parks are in good condition and is happy that Canyon Creek's playground is being utilized more and more.
- Member, Jim Bailey complimented the staff for working so hard over the **Wildflower!** Arts & Music festival weekend, adding that he would like to see more country music played on Sunday.
- Member, Victor Garza noted his good experience at Heights Pool and made mention that the level of customer service he experienced was exceptional.
- Member, Kevin Williams felt that the Cottonwood Art Festival was a success. Mr. Williams then asked if there were any designated times for special needs youth to conduct lap swimming lessons. Director Lori Smeby will look into this inquiry and get back to Mr. Williams with more information.
- Member, Pam Krause asked for staff to look into RichardsonFlags.org advertisement signs located at Mimosa Park.

12. Department Calendar Items

- Family 4th of July event will take place on Tuesday, July 4th at 6:00p.m.
- Corporate Challenge opening ceremonies will take place on Friday, August 11th
- Rotary Community Picnic will take place on Saturday, June 17th from 5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.
 - i. Great opportunity for the commission members to learn about inclusive playgrounds. Director, Lori Smeby noted the check presentation would commence around 6:45p.m. Member Jeanne Hooker and Jim Bailey agreed to attend.

13. Being no further business, on a motion by Daniel Burdette, seconded by Jeanne Hooker, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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

Minutes approved at September 12, 2017, regular meeting:

Jeremy Thomason, Chairman