

Minutes
PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Regular Meeting
Held at Civic Center – Conference Room 202
January 14, 2014
6:00 PM

Members absent: Collin Hayes and AV Vaghela

City Council Liaison in attendance: Kendal Hartley

PARC Staff in attendance: Michael Massey, Robbie Hazelbaker, Roger Scott, Chris Cottone, Marika Coleman and Kelli Keath

Attending Commission Members:

Kenan Brandes – Chairman

Susan Fischer – Member

Pam Krause - Member

Gene Fitch, Jr. – Member

Jeremy Thomason – Vice Chairman

Kevin Williams – Member

Jeanne Hooker – Member

Visitors: Dario Xolalpa, Miclo McDaniel, Deana Moreno, Jessie Baocazar and Maria Baocazar

1. Chairman, Kenan Brandes, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. On a motion by Pam Krause, seconded by Kevin Williams, the minutes of the November 12, 2013 Regular Meeting were approved.
3. Chairman's Report
 - a) Introduction of Visitors
 - Dario Xolalpa and Miclo McDaniel; two Richardson boys introduced themselves and addressed the Park & Recreation Commission with respect for their desire to have a public Skate Park in Richardson. They identified themselves as positive kids looking for a safe place to be together, to exercise and recreate. With them, they brought a Petition with 202 signatures in support of their quest for a Richardson Skate Park. Chairman, Kenan Brandes accepted the petition into public record and stated his appreciation for their efforts.
 - Jessie Baocazar, a Richardson Boy Scout, introduced himself to the Commission. He is currently working on his Eagle Scout and part of the requirement is to attend a Public Meeting.
 - b) Recognition of appointed Park & Recreation Chairman, Kenan Brandes and Vice Chairman, Jeremy Thomason
 - Kenan Brandes informed the members that he has been appointed by City Council as the Parks & Recreation Commission's new Chairperson. Also promoted; was Jeremy Thomason as the new Vice Chairman. Both have severed on the Commission for several years and are looking forward to many more in their new roles.
 - c) Introduction of new Park & Recreation Commission Members; Gene Fitch and Jeanne Hooker
 - Chairman Kenan Brandes introduced both Gene Fitch, Jr. and Jeanne Hooker as new members of the Parks & Recreation Commission. Mr. Fitch and Mrs. Hooker briefed the members on their backgrounds and past experience; after which all members gave them a warm welcome.

d) Calendar of future PARC meetings.

- Chairman, Kenan Brandes reviewed the 2014 PARC Meeting Schedule with members and proposed a motion to accept the calendar as is with the following one exception. The meeting scheduled for March be moved from the 11th to the 18th to accommodate the RISD Spring Break Schedule. This motion was unanimously passed.

4. Director's Report

a) 2014 Heights Family Aquatic Center Operations Plan

- Marika Coleman, Aquatic/Recreation Coordinator and Chris Cottone, Superintendent of Aquatics and Athletics presented members with a presentation that included 2013 Revenues and Cost Recap, a Projected 2014 Revenue and Cost Projection and proposed 2014 Program Changes. Their presentation highlighted on how well the New Heights Family & Aquatic Center served the community in just the 6 short weeks that it was open.
- After some discussion; Mrs. Coleman and Mr. Cottone asked for a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission to adopt the following; Keep the same 12 week season for all five pools as in previous years with the option to extend the season into the week prior to school starting if possible, move swim lessons to the existing four pools, open the Heights Family Aquatic Center two hours earlier as a leisure pool only. On a motion by Susan Fischer and seconded by Jeanne Hooker the 2014 Proposed Program Changes were accepted as is. This motion passed by a 6-1 vote.

b) April 15th Priority List Discussion

- Assistant Directors, Robbie Hazelbaker and Roger Scott reviewed the 2013 April 15th Priority List.
- Director Michael Massey asked that all members study, review and prepare for the next upcoming PARC Meetings so that a recommendation of priorities regarding projects or activities considered being desirable for the Parks and Recreation Program can be submitted.

c) Santa's Village Survey Results Discussion

- Director Michael Massey began the discussion with a review of the August 13th, Special Meeting where a recommendation was sought from the Commission on opportunities to reduce Santa's Village overcrowding, thus leading to more a relaxed enjoyment of Santa's Village for Richardson families. At that time, the Commission decided to refrain from making any recommendations to City Council until the PARD Staff could gather more information on who was attending the event. The information was to be gathered from a Zip Code survey during the 2013 event.
- Mr. Massey gave a presentation which provided the members with the data that was collected. The survey showed a significant attendance of people outside Richardson zip codes, however based on percentage of attendance; Richardson exceeded the surrounding communities' attendance per zip code.

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- After feedback was received from the Commission, it was decided that the Parks and Recreation Department will continue to gain insight on this topic and carry on with seeking new opportunities to solve problems within Santa's Village frame work and offerings.

d) McKamy Spring Park Historical Marker Presentation

- Members, Kevin Williams and Pam Krause gave a presentation to the Commission which included a proposal for a Historical Marker at McKamy Spring Park. Their presentation included subject marker criteria, basic marker application requirements, scoring criteria and an implementation timeline.
- The proposed marker would provide significance and attention to Richardson, Brick Row Development and McKamy Spring Park. The total investment needed to complete this project was estimated at \$1900.00 with a projection of completion around 2Q/3Q 2015.
- On a motion by Jeremy Thomason and seconded by Jeanne Hooker the Park & Recreation Commission recommended the request for a Texas Historical Marker to be located at the historical site commemorating the Yoiuana Tribe of the Caddo Group of Indians at McKamy Spring Park in Richardson. This motion was passed unanimously.

e) Oncor Texas Trail Landscape Project

- Director Michael Massey gave a presentation on the Texas Trails Partnership between the City of Richardson and ONCOR. He highlighted the details of the Pioneer Landscape Project taking place which has been named "Living Laboratory". The site for this project has been identified as Owens Trail South of Collins Blvd. La Terra Studios has been retained by ONCOR as the Landscape Architect Firm for this project. They will educate ONCOR and assist with any design challenges.
- The City of Richardson will maintain the landscape project and help educate other communities who seek to improve their corridors.

f) 2010 Bond & Current Projects Update

- Assistant Director Roger Scott gave an overview and summary on the 2010 Bond Program's completed projects, the projects still in design and or under construction and other capital improvement projects funded from grants.

5. Park & Recreation Commission round table of community interest items

- Chairman Kenan Brandes shared that he has been appointed to serve on the Public Art Review Committee which will review and help craft and implement public art in the City.
- Vice Chairman Jeremy Thomason asked that the record show his input regarding the KDC City Line Park. He shared that he is also just as passionate as other members about the development and the saving of trees. He commented on the Palisades Development which has a 4 acre park. The developer for this project is interested and is asking for feedback. He noted that there is plenty of potential for another great park.
- Director Michael Massey commented on how Phillips Creek Ranch, Frisco, Texas was promoting their private development and made a comparison between the private and public sector. He cited two examples of how the City of Richardson is making a similar lifestyle available to the public. One was implementation was that of the Arts Master Plan and another was the development of the City's Master Trail Plan.
- Chairman Kenan Brandes opened a discussion by asking members for input on community interest items. Some of the other topics that were received included; The Richardson App updated to a more new more friendly feature (Kendal Hartley), Kudos was given to the Parks Department Staff for all the hard work that was completed after the ice storm (Pam Krause) and the question was asked why drinking fountains were and are turned off at Mark Twain and Duck Creek Trail Park. Roger Scott responded to this; the drinking fountains are winterized to prevent damage (Kevin Williams).

6. Adjournment

Being no further business, on a motion by Pam Krause, seconded by Kevin Williams, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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

Minutes approved at February 11, 2014, regular meeting:
