

MINUTES
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2005
6:30 PM

The Board convened for their regular meeting at 6:30 PM at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office at 717 West Main Street, Arlington, Texas on July 11, 2005, notice of said meeting being posted as prescribed by Chapter 551, V.T.C.A., Government Code, with the following members and staff present, to wit:

Members:

Mr. Val Gibson	Chair	Place 8
Mr. Alvin Warren	Vice-Chair	Place 1
Mr. Charley Amos	Member	Place 2
Ms. Candace Halliburton	Member	Place 5
Mr. Joseph Way – arrived at 6:32 PM	Member	Place 7
Mr. James Maibach	Member	Place 4
Mr. Glenn Troutman	Member	Place 9
Ms. Caron Montgomery	Member	Place 3
Ms. Laura Capik	Member	Place 6
Mr. Gabriel Rivas	Youth Member	Place 10

Staff:

Jennifer Fadden	Assistant Director - PARD
Jennifer Chadwell	Administrative Assistant to the Director
Bill Gilmore	Assistant Director – PARD
Gordon Robertson	Parks Planning Manager
Matt Young	Assistant Director – PARD
Diana Foster	Park Facilities Coordinator
Evonne Sandas	Director of Golf

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Val Gibson called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 PM and welcomed youth member Gabriel Rivas to the Board.

II. JUNE 13, 2005 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Gibson asked for approval of the minutes. Mr. Amos made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2005 board meeting and Mr. Warren seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. RECOGNITION – Parks and Recreation Spot Light Employee

Jennifer Fadden introduced Steve Fox as the Golf Tournament and Promotions Coordinator. Mr. Fox provided the Board a brief synopsis of his work history and discussed his involvement with marketing and promotion of outings and tournament events for Arlington golf.

Ms. Fadden informed the Board of the approval of beer sales at City of Arlington Golf courses and thanked the Board for their continued support of this endeavor.

IV. ITEMS FOR ACTION

Comments from Citizens (about Items for Action)

Items for Action

- i. Park Permits – Ms. Foster presented the Board with 22 permits for approval. Ms. Foster also

pointed out one correction; a pavilion rental at Veterans Park listed an incorrect spelling of Candace Halliburton's name. Mr. Maibach asked if staff could designate on the report which rental groups were not being charged a permit fee. Ms. Capik asked how many courts a tennis center reservation would occupy. Ms. Fadden responded that the reservation would affect five courts. Mr. Maibach inquired as to how the new facility rental fee structure (adopted in June 2005) was being accepted. Ms. Foster responded that the new fee structure is being received well. Mr. Maibach asked about the UTA track representative who had an issue with fee increases. Mr. Young responded that he has met with this individual and clarified our deposit structure. Mr. Amos made the motion to approve the permits. Mr. Rivas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS

No discussion.

VI. SCHEDULED INFORMATION REPORTS

Customer Comment Report – Ms. Capik inquired about older street landscaping and whether or not we have liability coverage in case of accidents. Mr. Young responded that we do and any visible obstruction such as trees will be removed. Ms. Halliburton inquired about a citizen comment noting that contract maintenance crews were spraying his property. He also expressed concerns about what they were spraying. Mr. Young replied that a regular weed killer was sprayed onto a small area of the homeowner's property as originally requested by the previous owner. Crews have now stopped spraying this property on request by the new owner. Ms. Capik asked if we had any similar water features comparable to the ones at Misenhimer Park and if so, what problems we were experiencing with them. Mr. Young responded that we do not. He also explained that unanticipated events, such as children carrying sand from a nearby sand box and placing that sand in drains, created unique challenges including water circulation and filtration effectiveness.

Ms. Capik inquired about a citizen response to the new playground equipment at Gene Schrickel Jr. Park. Mr. Robertson responded that many other municipalities use this type of equipment and children are very enthusiastic about it. Mr. Maibach pointed out his concern with an issue regarding a six inch gap between the fence and the backstop at the baseball facility at Randol Mill Park. Mr. Young informed the Board that the Operations staff is working with Park Planning to correct the backstop gap. Mr. Gibson asked that staff carefully monitor the water sprinkler systems during water conservation times. Mr. Young agreed and informed the Board that the City is granted exclusion to this rule for new sod areas. Ms. Fadden informed the Board about a new customer comment tracking system (Everest) to be implemented this fall. The new internet-based software is currently being used by the City Manager's Office and between departments city-wide to report and act on customer concerns.

Planning Work Plan Report – Mr. Robertson provided the Board with an update of the Planning Work Plan report. Mr. Gibson reminded the Board that each member is responsible for their particular areas within the city and to identify any potential issues. Mr. Way inquired as to the fund raising efforts of the Rotary Club in raising \$100K to fund playground renovations at the JW Dunlop Sports Center. Mr. Robertson responded that the group was roughly half way there and will step up campaigning efforts towards the end of the collection period. The deadline for collections is scheduled for September 2005, but can be pushed back if needed due to budget shortfalls. Mr. Gibson stated that he would like an update at the September Board meeting on this issue.

Mr. Maibach asked if horses still had a path at Stovall Park in light of the Bad Koenigshofen aquatic facility construction. Mr. Robertson stated that the horse path would still be there once construction on the aquatic center is completed. Ms. Montgomery informed staff of a dying tree on the west side of Stovall Park. Mr. Robertson stated that this tree was impacted due to construction. Mr. Gibson asked that Mr. Robertson also provide the Board with an update on the impact of Cowboys stadium construction on Johnson Creek during the September Board meeting.

VII. PARD INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Harold Patterson Commercial Development Project – Mr. Robertson provided the Board with an update of the Harold Patterson development project and stated that Fire Station #9 is unable to

commit to moving to a different location at this point. The planning group is currently working with the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) in regards to the proposed median cut. Mr. Maibach asked if a formal letter had been sent to TXDOT. Mr. Robertson stated that he has not sent any formal letters, but has met with the State on this issue and that the State has given the City until November to voice any concerns. Mr. Troutman stated that he would like the Board to communicate their stance with the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Fadden suggested that the Board wait to hear the Chamber's stance on this issue before submitting any letters to TXDOT.

- b. FY06 Budget Update - Mr. Gilmore updated the Board on the FY06 budget process and informed the Board that City Manager Jim Holgersson would be attending the August Board meeting to answer any questions. Mr. Gilmore also reminded the Board of the July 26th budget presentation to Council and the August 9th deliberations of final recommendations. The first reading will be held on September 13th. Ms. Fadden also advised the Board of a special meeting on the operating budget on August 2nd and another Council meeting to discuss the capital budget on August 9th.
- c. Heroes' Park – Mr. Robertson informed the Board that there is now a construction budget available to fund Heros Park as a result of a donation from the new landfill contract company (Republic Services). Mr. Robertson also informed the Board of the September 10th groundbreaking. Heroes' Park currently has a \$270K budget and is estimated to cost approximately \$300K. Ms. Fadden explained that no operating and maintenance funds have been identified for this project. Mr. Way expressed his concern with funding a new park when there are other parks currently in our system that need funding. Mr. Robertson stated that he will address maintenance costs with the Fire and Police Departments since they have a vested interest in this park. Mr. Gibson and Ms. Montgomery both expressed their concerns with having a groundbreaking at this location when no maintenance funding has been identified.

VIII. PARB COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning and Policies – Caron Montgomery, Chair

No discussion.

Acquisition and Development – Alvin Warren, Chair

No discussion.

Operations and Maintenance – Charley Amos, Chair

This committee will need to select another committee member. Mr. Gibson stated that the committees will soon be reorganized.

IX. ITEMS FROM PARB MEMBERS

Reports from Liaisons to Advisory Boards – No discussion

Reports from Liaisons to Organizations – No discussion

Board Members

- a) Linking with Organizations – No discussion

Announcements

Chair – Mr. Robertson addressed the Board chairman and asked about holding an open dog park play date every Sunday instead of keeping it at a once a month basis. The Board had no objection to his request. Representatives from RUFF (Responsible Fun for Fido) will continue to handle site logistics and cleanup.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

NOTE: Taped recordings and minutes of all Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meetings are a matter of public record and are kept on file in the Parks and Recreation Administrative Office, 717 W. Main

Street, Arlington, TX. Any Board member or interested party has the right to review these tapes and minutes at the Parks and Recreation Administrative Office.

X/Administration/Park Board/Minutes/07.11.05