

MINUTES  
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY OCTOBER 8, 2007

The Board convened for their regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office located at 717 West Main Street, Arlington, Texas on October 8, 2007, 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 9
Mr. Mark James - absent	Member	Place 3
Mr. Justin Martinez - absent	Member	Place 1
Ms. Sue Phillips	Member	Place 5
Mr. Gene Gehring	Member	Place 4
Mr. Patrick Wyatt	Member	Place 8
Ms. Lynn Healy	Member	Place 2
Ms. Laura Capik	Vice-Chair	Place 6
Ms. Lanora Wright	Member	Place 7
Mr. Benjamin Bates	Youth Member	Place 10

**Staff:**

Pete Jamieson	Director of Parks and Recreation
Matt Young	Assistant Director - PARD
Gary Packan	Assistant Director - PARD
Bill Gilmore	Assistant Director - PARD
Jennifer Chadwell	Assistant to the Director

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Val Gibson called the Board Meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

- a. Chairman Gibson asked for approval of the September 10, 2007 Park Board minutes. Ms. Phillips made a motion to approve. Ms. Capik seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- b. Chairman Gibson asked for approval of the September 19, 2007 Park Board minutes. Ms. Capik made a motion to approve. Mr. Bates seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**III. RECOGNITION**

Mr. Jamieson introduced Gary Packan, Assistant Director of Park Enterprise Programs. Mr. Packan provided a brief summary of his work history.

**IV. ITEMS FROM CITIZENS**

Don Duvall with the Texas Iron Benders Horseshoe Pitching Association addressed the Board about the movement of the Meadowbrook Park horseshoe pits to Vandergriff Park. Mr. Duvall would like a timeline for proposed changes. Bill Eagen, Secretary of the Texas Iron Benders Horseshoe Pitching Association provided a history of the Arlington Iron Benders Club. Mr. Gibson asked that staff provide monthly updates on any progress concerning relocation of the Meadowbrook Park horseshoe pits.

**V. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

**Comments from Citizens (about Items for Action)**

N/A

## **Items for Action**

Park Permits – Mr. Young provided the Board with the park permit report. Ms. Healy motioned to approve the park permit requests. Ms. Capik seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Young informed the board that the park rental report would not be in the packets again until next spring when rental activity is more substantial. Mr. Gibson asked that staff provide a fee structure for review by the Board's Acquisition and Development Committee.

Founders' Plaza Naming– Ms. Healy updated the Board on the Planning and Policy Committee meeting where the committee endorsed the naming of the new downtown park as "Founders' Plaza". The committee also endorsed the re-naming the current Founders Park to "Marrow Bone Springs Park." The committee would also approve the name, "Arlington Founders' Plaza" if council showed an interest in this name as well. Ms. Healy made a motion to name both facilities. Ms. Capik seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Aquatic Facility Use Policies – Mr. Gilmore provided a power point presentation detailing facility use policies such as facility cards, card scans, pool rentals, pre-season events, and home school swim. Ms. Healy would like to see staff keep the public informed of public swim times. The Board would like to provide a written guideline of our aquatic pool policies and regulations. Ms. Wright would like to ensure that citizens be made aware as to "why" the City is changing various policies. Ms. Wright would also like to see a contract implemented that citizens would need to sign when making pool rentals. Ms. Healy made a motion to approve the new guidelines for aquatic facility use policies. Ms. Phillips seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. PARD INFORMATION ITEMS(for discussion)**

Crime District Program – Chief Bowman provided a power point presentation highlighting initiatives such as Safe Anywhere, city codes, City policy enforcements, and the hiring of additional fire and police personnel. Chief Bowman also discussed keeping track of crime statistics, goals and objectives for reducing crime, increasing community watch groups, youth and family initiatives, budget concerns and City buy-in.

Youth Programming – In response to the proposed Crime Control and Prevention District, Mr. Gilmore updated the Board on the youth programming initiative and highlighted issues such as the creation of a teen program coordinator, after school programs, teen trips and programs, camp scholarships, computer programs and the creation of a Literacy Coordinator. This program will partner with the Build a Dream program to provide funding to low income families.

Mayor's Youth Commission – Mr. Gilmore provided a power point presentation and updated the Board on the Mayor's Youth Commission. Mr. Gilmore discussed the history of the Mayor's Youth Commission, current community partners, strategic goals, work plan items and recent accomplishments.

Facility Needs Assessment Update – Ms. Rudiger updated the Board on work concerning the indoor facility needs assessment project. Two public meetings have been held along with several focus groups and surveys. Presentation of the completed study to the City Council is proposed for April 2008.

Grounds Maintenance Contract Update – Mr. Young informed the Board of current maintenance standards for public properties. Mr. Young highlighted City mowing issues such as the inventory, challenges for medians and rights-of-way, and budget expectations. Mr. Young will follow up on bid results once they have been tabulated.

Founders' Plaza Master Plan – Mr. Young updated the Board on the September 19, 2007 presentation to Council and provided a master plan design of Founders' Plaza including pavilion designs. Ms. Healy would like to have representatives from the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion Foundation come talk to the Board at a future meeting.

Levitt Pavilion – Pasadena Trip – agenda item tabled until the November 12 Board meeting

Park Board Email Addresses – Mr. Young asked Board members if they would be interested in being assigned City email addresses for ease of communication.

**VII. PARB Committees**

Planning and Policies – Lynn Healy, Chair

Updates on Aquatic Facility Use Policy and Park Naming given under agenda topics.

Acquisition and Development – Laura Capik, Chair

N/A

Operations and Maintenance – Justin Martinez, Chair

N/A

**VIII. REQUESTED INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (for distribution)**

Staff distributed informational reports to the Board. There was no discussion.

**IX. ITEMS FROM PARB MEMBERS**

Board Members – Ms. Wright reminded the Board about the Planning and Policy Committee meeting on October 13, 2007 at 4:30 p.m.

Chair – N/A

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

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Val Gibson, PARB Chair

**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.