



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 14th, 2013
7:00 p.m.

Rowlett Community Centre, Room D
5300 Main Street, Rowlett TX 75088

PRESENT: Mike DeLatte, Rick Helfers, Lonnie Cornwell, Ken Romaine, Rhetta Bowers, Wayne Baxter, John Macatee, Brownie Sherrill,

ABSENT: Fredrick Bradshaw, Bill Gilbreath, Matt Grubisich

VISTORS: Dave Holl, Michael Black

STAFF: Keith Flournoy, Parks Division Manager; Jermel Stevenson, Director of Parks and Recreation; Shelly Monroe, Sr. Administrative Assistant; Angela Smith, Recreation Division Manager

1. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Quorum present
3. Lonnie C. motioned to accept the July 10th minutes and Rick H. seconded the motion. All in favor.
4. Kids' Kingdom, Shorewood, and Community Park updates (Keith Flournoy)
 - a. Kids' Kingdom
 - a1. Due to soil testing results 6 inches of soil was required to be removed. A decision was made to remove 8 inches just as a safety precaution. The removal began this week and should be finished next week.
 - a2. The test results showed the arsenic levels did not reach ground water level.
 - a3. Jermel S. shared there is a joint work session with City Council scheduled for August 27, 2013 at 6:00pm located in the Annex building. He would like members to attend to discuss the vision of Kids' Kingdom. Jermel S. announces this for two reasons; One being to inform the board about the meeting and second to inquire if there will be a quorum for that meeting. He continued to share that himself and Keith F. went to Frisco to view a Kids' Kingdom at Hope Park. This kids' kingdom was phenomenal. He suggests a possible field trip for members to look at Frisco's Kids' Kingdom.
 - a4. Rick H. asked once the dirt is removed are the plans to clean up this area. Keith F. responded that this site will be cleaned up.
 - a5. Lonnie C. questioned why another location is being considered for the new Kids' Kingdom. Jermel S. suggested this is a question that may be asked at the upcoming work session because he does not have a definitive answer except he is waiting until the final soil test results are received. Wayne B. offered that he believes a couple city council members have an opinion to see the location moved. Rhetta B. concurred with Lonnie C. in regards of wanting to know why another location would be considered. Lonnie C. remarked the last place he would like to see the playground placed is at Community Park. Rick H. reassured he does not want to place Jermel S. on the spot for answering questions that may be for city council members to answer. Mike D. commented that he feels council members will listen to the board's views and agrees that the



final soil results are important to have before a decision can be made. Mike D. added that he is willing to listen to the city council's ideas and be open for change then form a decision. Rhetta B. agreed there will be a positive presentation from this board and looks forward to hearing some answers to questions. Wayne B. reminded members to be open to suggestions and members will voice what is believed to be what the community wants. He continued to mention that as a board a decision can be made as to the best place for Kids' Kingdom and share this view with City Council. Wayne B. emphasized it is very important for their presence at this work session.

a6. Keith F. hopes to have the soil testing results prior to the work session but the soil needs to be completely removed before another test can be completed. It usually takes a week before the test results are provided. Lonnie C. requested for the process be expedited if any way possible. Keith F. stated he will see what he can do.

a7. Lonnie C. asked if the soil is discarded in a special dump site. Keith F. replied that it goes to a particular landfill in Garland. Ken R. questioned if the extraction of soil and discarding was in the budget. Jermel S. reported it was not included in the original budget. Ken R. followed up with asking if there were other line items affected by this unplanned cost. Jermel S. concluded with no.

b. Shorewood Park

b1. The new playground structure has been ordered. The order is to take 6-9 weeks until arrival therefore expects it in about another month.

c. Community Park

c1. The cross bar has been ordered and hope to have this play equipment piece by end of next week then modifications will begin.

5. Eco-Tourism Kiosk at Paddle Point Park (Angie S.)

a. Angie S. provided a 21 x 21 sample of the kiosk sign for members to review. The original sign will be a 42 x 42 map. The sign will include a QR code at the bottom, a list of restaurants, and a grid with numbers to where places are located. The sign company will send an electronic copy of the map on Friday and should receive a hard copy on Monday, August 19, 2013. Tentative plans for installation is on August 28, 2013.

b. Ken R. asked if the structure has two posts for the sign. Angie S. confirmed and added the map will be at a slant for visitor viewing.

c. Dave H. expressed a concern about the "you are here" box looking like it is located on the wrong side of Miller Road which is Lakeside Park rather than Paddle Point Park. He continued to share that at times individuals appear to be confused with the two locations because of the physical address provided and would like to make sure it is indicating the correct destination before the map is finalized. Angie S. stated she will look at this once she receives the larger draft of the sign.

6. Scenic Point Park

a. Jermel S. mentioned Scenic Point Park will be an item on the City Council agenda meeting in September. He announced Michael Black, La Terra Studios, was present to share updated information and answer questions regarding this park.

b. Michael B. provided an overview of phase 1. There have been discussions and planning with the property owner who has land next to the designated land for the park. He showed a visual map to point out the elevated pedestrian trail that connects to SH 66 bridge. Michael B. stated the city cannot begin to build on the property until the city of Dallas allows Rowlett to build on the property. A legal document needs to be devised.

c. Lonnie C. asked if there is anything members can do to assist with the process for the easement. Michael B. answered La Terra Studios surveyors are working on the easement then it will go to



- the city attorney for approval followed by legal document being presented to City Council for approval therefore there is nothing that is needed from members.
- d. Rick H. expressed concern about the lack of parking. He commented the park will be great but there appears to be little access. Michael B. explained the phase process and ideas for parking as plans progress.
 - e. Lonnie C. questioned if there will be any parking for larger vehicles such as a bus. Michael B. assured he is keeping this in mind and this is one reason there is a round-about area for drop off.
7. Numbering System on Trails (Keith F.)
- a. Keith F. assured members he has this on his task list. He is in the process of having conversations with others and viewing a couple parks to obtain ideas for Rowlett parks. He will try to have something for members to view for the next meeting.
8. ELC – Dan Roberts name change (Jermel S.)
- a. Jermel S. noted the resolution for this will be on the City Council agenda as a consent item for September 3, 2013.
9. Director's Report: Jermel S.
- a. There was a second tour of parks with city council members for neighboring park systems. There were opportunities to speak with the directors and/or superintendents that care for those parks. Due to this opportunity members heard the levels of staffing for these parks, the care of the parks such as chemicals and irrigation, and park standards. City council members have different opinions of the level of care needed for Rowlett parks. One key focus appeared to be shade structures. Jermel S. believes this is something to consider because it helps to protect the investment of the play equipment as well as enables more play time on the equipment.
 - b. Rowlett Hockey League – Youth hockey skate clinics have been scheduled for four weekend days in September including September 21, 22, 28 & 29. Youth registration is now being taken online for the fall leagues online and they will hold player evaluation days on October 5 & 6. Adult league drafts will be held on September 30th at 7:00pm and the league starts on October 7th.
 - c. Rowlett Adult Softball – Softball leagues are now being played on Sunday, Monday, Thursday & Friday at Community Park Adult complex. Tournaments are being held approximately three Saturdays per month! The weekend of August 2-4 the association will hold the USSSA Men's D State Tournament at the park with over fifty teams participating. This will be a great tourism booster for the city since the majority of the teams will be in the area overnight on Saturday, August 3rd.
 - d. Youth Baseball of Rowlett – Youth Baseball is about midway through their summer baseball season. This was the first time Youth Summer Baseball has been offered in Rowlett and the league ended up with about eight teams of age eight and under players playing in the league. Fall registration has started and will continue through August 15th. September 9th is the projected first day of the fall baseball season.
 - e. Rowlett Soccer Association – Rowlett Youth Soccer registration for Fall 2013 opened. Regular season play will begin on September 7th and the season will run through November 10th barring any rain out makeups. Soccer has held two weeklong soccer camps at Community Park during the summer season.
 - f. The Dallas Mavericks Hoop Camp took place this week, July 22 – 26 from 8am – 4 pm at the RCC. Approximately 150 kids came through the camp making it a very busy facility.



- g. Seventeen seniors attended the health seminar hosted by the SCOR group on Tuesday, July 16th. Lake Pointe Health Centre presented information on how to diagnose sleep problems, the dangers of not treating sleep problems and how to best treat sleep problems. Following the seminar, the tech remained in the Centre for an informal question and answer session.
 - h. Our Employee challenge at the Rowlett Community Centre is a huge hit. At our half way mark, we had approximately 1300 votes and they are continuing to vote daily. Our challenge will go another month through the end of August and winners will be announced at our employee cookout in early September. This Challenge is being used as a team building for the front desk staff at The Centre! Rick H. asked if board members are supposed to serve at this function. Jermel S. shared this is not that event.
 - i. Upcoming Events/Programs
 - *Movies on Main – Fridays, September 6, 13, 20 – Dusk / Downtown on Main St.
 - *Diversity Day – Saturday, October 5
 - J. Lonnie C. inquired if Rowlett has more acreage in undeveloped parks and if yes then would it be beneficial for the city to sell some of this land and/or develop more parks? Jermel S. asserted that in dealing with undeveloped parks the same path needs to be continued at this point due to budget so the codes are followed as far as mowing. He continued to say there is no money to add more playgrounds and trail system for new parks right now. Mike D. added that his thoughts are if something better came up for the undeveloped property that the city would consider this but another concept to keep in mind is that the undeveloped land provides an asset for the future. Jermel S. voiced the undeveloped land adds green space for the community as well.
 - K. Mike D. asked if Wet Zone closed early this year. Jermel S. stated it closed at the usual time. Angie S. continued that it closes one week before school starts. John M. asked if it has been considered to be open for Labor Day weekend to bring in some revenue. Jermel S. shared this is difficult for Wet Zone because most of the seasonal staff are students who are gone due to school beginning. John M. mentioned that the water park in Garland closes but re- opens for Labor Day weekend and it brings in a big crowd for them. Mike D. shared that Garland does have a different clientele which helps make it successful. Lonnie C. asked if this was a good season for Wet Zone. Jermel S. responded Wet Zone had a good season in spite of the weather.
10. Public Announcement. Members of the Board and/or staff may make announcements of local civic events. No member of the board or commission may discuss nor take any action with regard to the announcements.
- Mike D. sent a letter to staff due to their excellent job on the tasks that was put upon them for the ball tournament. 100 teams participated and it was busy around the clock all weekend. The association heard no comments from teams which meant a good thing.
 - Lonnie C. mentioned that annually KRB does a city-wide litter index which is a drive through of parks in Rowlett. They voiced the parks are so clean and feel parks staff should be recognized for this. Keith F. expressed appreciation for the positive feedback.
 - Wayne B. shared the city has a block grant and one of the council members asked for a portion, \$107,000, of this money to be designated to parks. He expressed appreciation for this recommendation. This would be additional to the \$100,000 for Kid's Kingdom. Lonnie C.



questioned if the dollar amount of donations is known. Wayne B. believes it is approximately 5-6,000. He is also aware the Lions Club promised to donate \$2000. Rick H. asked about an update on the playground committee. Jermel S. said this committee will be better organized after the meeting with City Council on August 27th.

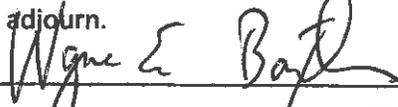
John M. informed members he hears from the public their concern that the scope of the project of a new Kids' Kingdom will not be as good as the one previously built. He is hoping that the structure will accommodate the same number of children. Jermel S. says the newer models can be large and recommends seeing an example at Hope Park in Frisco.

Lonnie C. announced that Dave Holl has been instrumental in moving Paddle Point Park forward and his efforts are appreciated. Dave H. has been helping with lake clean up and so far KRB has collected 40-50 bags of trash out of the lake which is separated for recycle. Dave H. is giving away a free canoe rental for anyone who collects a bag of trash. Lonnie C. added he wants to acknowledge him for this. Members applauded. Dave H. continued that the Boy Scouts are there this evening helping and there is a Girl Scout project coming up. Dave H. is enthusiastic about KRB's initiatives.

11. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings. No member of the board or commission may discuss any of the requested subjects until such matters have been properly placed on a posted agenda.

Rick H. suggested a discussion about an appreciation lunch for park maintenance crew.

12. Brownie S. motioned to adjourn at 8:10 pm. Rick H. seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.



Wayne Baxter, Chairman



Jermel Stevenson, Parks and Recreation Director