



**MINUTES**

**March 11, 2009 - 6:30 PM**

**PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**5300 Main Street \* Room D**

**Rowlett, Texas 75088**

---

**PRESENT:** Wayne Baxter, Lonnie Cornwell, Norman Tsao, Karen Scholz, Ron Miller, Sonja Sackor, Norman Scown, Becky Sebastian, Jeff Jenkins, Debby Bobbitt

**ABSENT:** Ken Romaine (Ex), Shelia Lucas

**GUESTS:** Marvin Overstreet, Gabriel Palma

**STAFF:** Tim Hightshoe, Interim Parks & Recreation Director; Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative Assistant

---

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.
2. This item was tabled due to the absence of Shelia Lucas. (Administer the Oath of Office and the Statement of Elected/Appointed Officer to the newly appointed member, Shelia Lucas.)
3. A motion was made by Karen Scholz and seconded by Lonnie Cornwell to approve the minutes of the February 11 meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of accepting the minutes as presented.
4. Chairman Baxter selected voting alternate Sonja Sackor.
5. Park Board Orientation was presented by Tim Hightshoe. (Attached)
6. Debby Bobbitt gave an update on the tree identification project. The project is 99% complete. Markers designating the type of trees along the walking trail will be purchased by KRB, and Tim Hightshoe would like to make the placement of the markers a scouting project.
7. The possibility of a lift and renovation options of lower area at the RCC was discussed by the Board. Ron Miller met with a contractor, but needs a set of RCC plans before further planning can be completed. They need to know the extent of what is to be done with the "dungeon" area, and how much the city will allocate for the work before a quotation can be obtained. Tim Hightshoe will get a set of plans to Ron.

A lift that will accommodate a wheelchair can be placed on the main floor between rooms "C" and "D" on the outside of the building that will give visitors access to the lower level of the RCC. The cost will be approximately \$170,000 for the lift and renovation of the "dungeon". Tim will get the square footage of the downstairs area, minus the dungeon for Ron.

8. Wayne Baxter led a discussion about adding a high school student as an ex-officio member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. A motion was made by Debby Bobbitt and seconded by Ron Miller to have the Chairman of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board write a letter to Council to request an ex-officio member be appointed. Gabriel Palma, a Garland I.S.D. student who was in attendance at this meeting and has attended previous Park Board meetings, was suggested to fill that position should the Council agree. Gabriel indicated he would be very interested in that appointment. The vote was unanimous to write the letter and request that Gabriel be considered.



9. Lonnie Cornwell gave a Parks bond subcommittee update and discussed specific proposed projects. The subcommittee has heard presentations from all sport groups, the Golf Advisory Committee, Wet Zone staff and received feedback from many citizens. The priority suggestions from citizens were trails and finish incomplete parks. A natatorium ranked high in their suggestions, but Tim explained that would be an item for the Facilities Subcommittee and would be included in a 10 year plan, rather than the 5 year plan.

The subcommittee will be recommending 8 items:

- a. Athletic field renovations
- b. Completion of partially developed parks: Katy RR, R. Arnold Edwards, Columbia and Wedgewood Parks.
- c. Park infra structure Improvements: irrigation, parking lots, boat ramps @ Paddle Point Park
- d. New Park Development
- e. Trail Development
- f. Concession Restrooms
- g. Golf Course Improvements

Lonnie will take the board's suggested priorities to the bond subcommittee.

10. A discussion of the recommended use of \$787.50 donated from last year's Chamber of Commerce golf tournament was tabled until the April meeting.
11. Discussed with item 8. Update of the park bond subcommittee.
12. 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.
- East Egg Hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are still needed.
13. 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.
- Coyle House update (Norman Scown)
14. Debby Bobbitt made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm that was seconded by Jeff Jenkins. The vote was unanimous.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Baxter, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative Assistant