



PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

August 12 2009 - 6:30 PM

5300 Main Street * Room D

Rowlett, Texas 75088

PRESENT: Wayne Baxter, Lonnie Cornwell, Ron Miller, Karen Scholz, Shelia Lucas, Norman Scown, Sonja Sackor, Norman Tsao, Jeff Jenkins, Ken Romaine, Debbie Bobbitt

VISITORS: Dr. Carin Walden, Mike & Nancy Lancaster, Cheryl Harris, Brady Cox, Nelda & Dan Roberts, Paul Nichols, James McGee, Marvin Overstreet; Gabriel Palma

STAFF: Tim Hightshoe, Parks Division Manager; Jennifer Gomez, Special Projects Manager

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Baxter at 6:30 PM.
2. The minutes of the June 2009 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Lonnie Cornwell that was seconded by Sonja Sackor.
3. Chairman Baxter selected Sonja Sackor as a voting alternate for this meeting.
4. This item was discussed after item 7.
5. Members of the Keep Rowlett Beautiful board joined the Parks Board to discuss possible enhancements, improvements and volunteer opportunities for the Environmental Learning Center. A synopsis was given of the actual building of the ELC and a "green building" was discussed to be used as an education building. Mike Lancaster, President of Keep Rowlett Beautiful, believes a green building would be an educational process. "Green" is the new ADA. Classes could be held in the building. The proposed appearance could be "Red Barn" style, approximately 4000 square feet with an amphitheatre that could open up to outdoor seating. It would have limited office space. A committee comprised of Parks Board members has been formed including: Lonnie Cornwell, Debby Bobbitt, Jeff Jenkins and Becky Sebastian. They would like to meet with KRB and discuss potential possibilities.

North Texas Council of Governments may have a grant available as a possible funding source. The Lions Club may be willing to donate as well, since they were initial supporters of the project.



6. Tim Hightshoe discussed with Keep Rowlett Beautiful the proposed Adopt-a-Spot program. KRB expressed an interest in possibly managing the program and adopting Veterans' Park. Specific Criteria included for the care of an adopted area would be given to each group or person who is interested in adopting a spot. We do not wish to infringe on KRB's programs. Median and intersection care present safety problems, but we are looking at a community service program through the courts for adults over the age of 18 to do this work, with the city providing safety equipment. We are identifying all the beds to determine a time table for weeding, mulching, etc. The work would be tracked, but there would be no direct supervision of the actual work. Adopt-A-Spot could also cover donations to certain areas for maintenance and beautification. Tim will email a draft of the program to Mike Lancaster of KRB and he would like to see the KRB program as well.
7. Discussion of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Goals & Mission Statement. This was discussed at the last meeting. No additional comments were made.

Item 4 was discussed at this time.

An official report of airfield violation at Lakes of Springfield Park against the Rowlett Chapter #4440 of the Academy of Model Aeronautics was discussed. The Board listened to citizen account as outlined in the contract. Further investigation took place and findings were presented for the Board's review and recommended action.

Dr. Carin Walden observed a radio controlled airplane flying over the lake at Springfield Park, got in her car and drove to the area to video tape the plane in violation of the rules. The 2003 ordinance stipulates the person violating the rules can be fined up to \$500. Dr. Walden asked that fliers follow the rules, stay in bounds and follow the contract. After a discussion, the board recommended suspending the violator from flying at the field for a one week period. If another violation occurs by this same person, there will be a 3-week suspension. Inspections on a staggered schedule will still be done. Ken Romaine recused himself from voting on this issue because he is the president of the flying club. A motion was made by the Norman Tsao to support and approve the decision of the flying club to sanction this member to a one week flying restriction. The motion was seconded by Debby Bobbitt and the vote was unanimous.

8. Tim Hightshoe gave a Parks and Recreation Department update including recent changes, programs and events, including the new Lakeside Leisure, the city budget, internal logistical moves and an update on the search for a new Parks Director.
9. 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.



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10. 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.

- KRB Cleanup in conjunction with the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was requested by Debby Bobbitt.
- Discuss the parking at Springfield Park.

11. Sonja Sackor made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Norman Tsao and unanimously approve. Adjournment was at 8:28pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wayne Baxter".

Wayne Baxter, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dianne Zachary".

Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative Assistant