

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
CITY COMMISSION ROOM
JANUARY 8, 2001
4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Ms. Beverly Page, Mrs. Phyllis Moore, and Mr. Gerald Reeck. Mrs. Marie Steichen and Ms. Jean Darbyshire reported later to the meeting. Mr. Roger Brannan and Mr. Larry Weaver were absent at this meeting. Also present at this meeting was Mr. Terry DeWeese, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Jim Colley, Recreation Superintendent; Mr. Scott Shoemaker, Zoo Director; Mr. Jerry Dishman, Park Superintendent; Mr. Frank Gibbs, Park Planner; Mr. Ivan Wilkinson, Recreation Supervisor; and Mrs. Debbie Dugan, Parks and Recreation Administration Supervisor.

Ms. Page called the meeting to order. Due to a lack of a quorum at the beginning of the meeting, the approval of the minutes was moved to later in the agenda.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Shoemaker discussed the following:

- Submitted IMS Grant
- Moved one male chimpanzee to the Kansas City Zoo
- Presented 18 serving 485 people
- Began preparations for 2001 Cans for Conservation and International Migratory Bird Day
- Began preparations for spring events
- Presented to the Konza Manhattan Rotary

Mr. Dishman discussed the following:

- Completed equipment repairs
- Installed and opened ice skating rink
- Worked at the Animal Shelter

Mr. Gibbs discussed the following:

- Northeast Community Park:
 - ❖ Construction drawings for utilities and grading are 100% complete
 - ❖ Advertisement for bids in December with bid opening in January
- Held bid opening for the Douglass Center Annex HVAC improvements
- Submitted the Transportation Enhancement Application for the Marlatt Avenue pedestrian/bicycle corridor project to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT)

Mr. Colley discussed the following:

- Remodeled concession stand at CiCo Park
- Began planning for spring and summer activities
- Purchased and installed soccer scoreboard on the varsity soccer field, which is sponsored by the *The Manhattan Mercury*

- Began Wildcat Basketball with 31 teams participating

Mrs. Dugan discussed the following:

- Processed 96 registrations
- Performed customer service by directing incoming telephone calls and assisting mail-in/walk-in customers
- Copied 4,757 forms for a variety of activities
- Continued selling "Old Time Christmas" tickets to Silver Dollar City
- Finished layout of Winter/Spring Brochure and provided camera-ready copy to McCall's for printing
- Developed pavilion reservation schedule for 2001
- Processed refunds for rabies and spay/neuter certificates
- Continued updating website page for Parks and Recreation Department
- Processed scholarship forms

Mr. DeWeese explained that the Board had requested information on the Animal Shelter. There were 1,857 animals brought into the shelter – 1,072 dogs and 785 cats. There were 724 animals adopted, 418 animals reclaimed, and euthanasia performed on 704 animals. Mr. DeWeese stated that Lynn Schumacher, supervisor, would attend a future meeting to answer any further questions from the Board.

MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Darybshire, seconded by Mrs. Moore to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 6, 2000. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

BROOKFIELD ADDITION

Mr. DeWeese explained at the meeting on November 6, 2000, the Board received a presentation from Mr. Fred Gibbs, BG Consultants, and the Board asked the Developer and City Administration to present an alignment that was on the perimeter of the development next to the Marlatt drainage ditch. City Administration met with Mr. Gibbs on Tuesday, November 28, 2000, to develop a recommendation for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Mr. DeWeese informed the Board that Mr. Doug DeMonbrun had purchased the acreage of land that the City and School District wanted to purchase for a parking lot. He explained that Mr. DeMonbrun was interested in working with the City in the development of a park in this area. Mr. DeWeese stated that he has been working with Mr. Rich Woodard on finding land to develop soccer fields. Mr. Woodard felt this area might be appropriate for the soccer fields.

Mr. Gibbs stated that the Linear Park Trail would border the Marlatt Ditch on the north side of the development. He stated that the trail would be constructed when the streets were developed. Mr. Gibbs also stated that there was acreage available for a neighborhood park, in the future, if the City was interested. He explained that Roger Schultz, developer, supports the park and Linear Park Trail in this area.

Discussion was held on the Drainage Study. Mr. DeWeese explained that the study would be presented to the City Commission in the near future.

It was moved by Mrs. Steichen, seconded by Mrs. Moore to accept the proposed Linear Park Trail extension, as it fits in with the Linear Park Master Plan, and the 4.6-acre park as proposed. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

Mr. DeWeese discussed the process of the Capital Improvements Program. He stated that the Citizen's Requests would be submitted at the end of February. The Board will review the requests at the March Meeting and decide whether to include the Citizen's Requests as part of the Board's recommendation to the City Commission.

Mr. DeWeese gave an update on the projects from the 2001-2006 Capital Improvements Program: Animal Shelter – almost complete walk-through scheduled; Eisenhower Baseball Complex parking lot – land has been sold and on hold for completion of drainage study; Skate Park - \$49,500 – did not receive grant, but will apply for another grant; Douglass Center HVAC – will be completed in the spring; Linear Park Trail – applied for a TEA21 Enhancement Grant; Anneberg Accessible Playground Phase I and II – completed – received \$90,000 in donations; Northeast Park – received excellent bids on grading project and the excess money might be used to build a road and parking lot.

He then discussed the projects and needs for the department:

- *Northeast Park – equipment and staff needs and maintenance building with fenced yard
- *Parks and Recreation Administration Building Addition
- *Gift Shop/Concession building at zoo entrance – will enhance revenue and save on staff duplication
- *Bleacher covers for dugouts – help to protect from foul balls
- *Irrigation at Eisenhower Baseball Complex
- *Maintain current infrastructure
- *Funds to purchase future property
- *Horticulture manpower

Mr. Reeck inquired about the plans for the land swap at Anneberg Park. Mr. DeWeese explained that the agreement and paper work had been completed, but Doc Stone's attorney dropped the issue, and since then, Doc Stone has passed away.

Mr. DeWeese stated that the Board should be thinking about items and cost estimates for further discussion at the February meeting and a final recommendation at the March meeting.

Mr. Bill Warner, 1907 Bluestem, suggested that the preliminary plan be printed in the paper. Mr. DeWeese explained that the document was too big to be published in the paper, but a news brief would be submitted to the media to inform the public of the meetings.

Discussion was held on reviewing the Comprehensive Parks Master Plan. Mr. DeWeese explained that a separate meeting has been in held in the past to review the Comprehensive Parks Master Plan. It was suggested that a special meeting be held to discuss the Comprehensive Parks Master Plan and Strategic Park Plan. The meeting will be held on Monday, January 29, 2001 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Steichen inquired about the status of the "Quality of Life" Bond Issue. Mr. DeWeese explained that the City Commission approved a Resolution to fund the Linear Park Trail project if the grant was received. He stated that discussions for a Bond Issue would be held after the City Commission elections.

MISCELLANEOUS

Drainage channel through Northeast Park – it is an alternative, but will be a low priority in the study because of the concerns brought forward by the community.

Mr. DeWeese informed the Board that he had sent approximately 25 e-mails to colleagues asking them how they worked with consultants and received five responses. They pay for their services like we do.

The meeting was adjourned.

Approved by Chairperson Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board

Date