

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
CITY COMMISSION ROOM
JULY 7, 2003
4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Mrs. Beverly Page, Mr. Roger Brannan, Mr. Bruce McMillan, and Mr. Reed Scott. Mrs. Marie Steichen reported later to the meeting. Ms. Jean Darbyshire was absent at this meeting. Also present at this meeting was Mr. Terry DeWeese, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Frank Gibbs, Park Planner; Ms. Rachel Soash, Education Curator; Mr. Mike Buchanan, Assistant Recreation Superintendent; and Mrs. Debbie Dugan, Administrative Supervisor.

Ms. Page called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

Mr. McMillan suggested a minor change to the minutes. It was moved by Mr. Brannan, seconded by Mr. Scott to approve the minutes, as corrected, of the Regular Meeting held on June 2, 2003. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. DeWeese introduced Ms. Soash to the Board.

Mr. Frank Gibbs, Park Planner; Ms. Rachel Soash, Education Curator; Mr. Mike Buchanan, Assistant Recreation Superintendent; and Mrs. Debbie Dugan, Administrative Supervisor; gave staff reports.

From the Staff Reports, the Board had questions on the Comprehensive Parks Master Plan and Little Apple Day Camp.

GUIDELINES FOR NAMING A PARK OR FACILITY

Mr. DeWeese explained that a draft document was put together from information gathered from the May meeting, so the Board would have a starting point to hold discussion. Ms. Page stated that the document should have two separate pieces – criteria and process. The Board held discussion and suggested the following items be considered for “criteria”:

- Leadership qualities
- Achievements
- Special circumstances
- Financial contributions
- Historical figures
- Community service

Items for “process”:

- The nominated individual must have three letters of support from the community outlining criteria that applies to the individual being nominated.
- The individual that is submitting a nomination will be required by the Manhattan Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to make a presentation to Board. Other individuals supporting the nomination may also make presentations.

- The Manhattan Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, after hearing the presentations and discussing the background information, may decide to recommend or not to recommend to the City Commission who will make the final decision on naming the park or facility.

The Board will review a draft document at the September meeting.

Mr. Scott left early due to prior commitments.

FEES

Mr. DeWeese explained that City Administration would be presenting fee increases to the City Commission to receive direction from the Commission on whether they are interested in raising fees. The recommended fees are as follows:

Youth sports from \$15 to \$20
Little Apple Day Camp from \$60/week to \$65/week
Swimming lessons from \$15 to \$20
Pool fees increased an average of 20%

City Manager Ron Fehr asked Parks and Recreation Administration to investigate what fees could be raised to enhance revenues and at the same time, investigate what opportunities might be available to offset the expense of building a water slide at City Park. The water slide was placed in the 2003 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for City Administration to investigate and determine how it might be funded.

After investigating what program fees could be raised, City Administration determined that \$20,195 could be raised in Recreation Fees and \$24,486 could be raised in pool fees. Alternatives that might be considered by the City Commission would be to: 1) use the revenue to offset operating expenses; 2) utilize the recreation revenue to offset operating expenses and the pool revenue to lease purchase a water slide; 3) not raise fees.

Mr. DeWeese distributed a letter that was submitted by Mrs. Beverly Rogers concerning the family pool pass. The Board discussed Mrs. Rogers' letter.

After further discussion, it was moved by Mr. Brannan, seconded by Mrs. Steichen to recommend the pool age categories be changed as follows: Teenagers - 13-18; Adults – 19 and older; and family – includes parents and children 18 and under. The Board also recommended approving the fee increases as presented by City Administration. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

It was moved by Mrs. Steichen, seconded by Mr. Brannan to recommend the increased fee structure be used for the purchase of the water slide at City Park Pool. On vote, motion carried – 4-0.

POOL MASTER PLAN

Mr. DeWeese explained that a list of improvements made to the pools was included in the Board's packet. He also discussed the benefit of what the pools offer economically to the community.

Mr. Gibbs presented a slide presentation on different water playground equipment.

The Board suggested that the Douglass Center Pool would be a great area for a water playground. The Board inquired if the Douglass Center Advisory Board was aware of the water playground idea for the Douglass Pool area. Mr. DeWeese explained that the Douglass Center Advisory Board does not make recommendations on the pool or park areas. The Board suggested that City Administration make a presentation to the Douglass Center Advisory Board to make them aware of the possibility of the water playground in the Douglass Park. Mr. DeWeese also informed the Board that there has to be support politically on this idea before a lot of work or public meetings takes place.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was moved by Mr. McMillan, seconded by Mr. Brannan to nominate Ms. Beverly Page as Chairperson. On vote, motion carried 4-0. It was moved by Mr. Brannan, seconded by Mrs. Steichen to nominate Mr. Bruce McMillan as Vice-Chairperson. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

MISCELLANEOUS

August Meeting – It was moved by Mr. Brannan, seconded by Mr. McMillan to not hold an August Meeting. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

Mrs. Steichen complimented “Thunder Over Manhattan”.

It was moved by Mrs. Steichen, seconded by Mr. Brannan to adjourn the meeting. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

Approved by Chairperson Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board

Date