

MINUTES  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY COMMISSION ROOM  
OCTOBER 4, 2004  
4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Mr. Bruce McMillan, Mr. Roger Brannan, Mrs. Beverly Page, Mr. Reed Scott, and Mr. Randy Martin. Ms. 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. Scott Shoemaker, Zoo Director; Mr. Frank Gibbs, Park Planner; Mr. Ivan Wilkinson, Recreation Superintendent; and Mrs. Debbie Dugan, Administrative Supervisor.

Mr. McMillan called the meeting to order.

STAFF REPORTS

Mrs. Debbie Dugan, Administrative Supervisor; Mr. Ivan Wilkinson, Recreation Superintendent; Mr. Scott Shoemaker, Zoo Director; and Mr. Frank Gibbs, Park Planner; gave staff reports.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Board began discussion on this issue before the Lee Mill Heights Development agenda item was presented. Mr. McMillan stated that the City Commission received and accepted the Task Force recommendations at their Work Session on Tuesday, September 14, 2004. Some of the comments received from the City Commission included asking the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to prioritize the needs of the community; research grant opportunities; naming opportunities; identifying and meeting with partners; site investigation; looking at taking care of current projects on the books as well as new ones; avoiding duplication of services currently being provided; and gearing the improvements toward permanent residents and not students. The City Commission was also interested in having joint meetings with the Board after some of the initial information has been gathered.

It was moved by Mr. Brannan, seconded by Mr. Martin to table discussion on the Parks and Recreation Community Needs Assessment to receive the report on the Lee Mill Heights Development. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

LEE MILL HEIGHTS DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Kirk Hoke, Schwab-Eaton, discussed how the development's sidewalks would tie in with pedestrian access to Warner Memorial Park. Mr. Roger Schultz, Schultz Construction, informed the Board that Lot 1, of the subdivision, which is one acre, has been set aside for green space with the possibility of having a picnic shelter, etc.

After discussion by the Board, it was moved by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Brannan to approve the Lee Mill Heights Development, as it relates to pedestrian circulation. On vote, motion carried 6-0.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

It was moved by Mr. Brannan, seconded by Mr. Martin to move off the table the Parks and Recreation Community Needs Assessment and to begin discussion. On vote, motion carried 6-0.

Mr. McMillan stated that City Administration has started on the items suggested by the City Commission.

The Board inquired about the Salvation Army project. Mr. McMillan stated that we proceed independently.

Discussion was held on potential partners. Mr. DeWeese explained that City Administration would be meeting with the potential partners. Mr. Brannan stated that during the meeting with the School Board, City Administration should review the background of how the partnering has worked for a long period of time with the City and USD #383.

The Board reviewed the Needs Assessment Components, which were included in the Board's packet. The components consist of the following: Indoor facility – pool and indoor space, Outdoor facilities, Sunset Zoo, and Linear Park Trail/Green Space.

Mrs. Page inquired about Douglass Pool not being listed on the component's list. Mr. DeWeese explained that discussion of the future of Douglass Pool would be on the November agenda.

The Board held discussion and questions were answered at that time.

Mr. Martin stated that he would be considering the items with the following approach:

1. Multiple uses/functions
  - a. Floor that can handle volleyball or basketball
2. Supports lifelong activity and health
  - a. Walking, trails, aquacise, racquetball
3. Year-round flexibility
  - a. Indoor pools, gym
4. Number of people that can benefit vs. cost to make available
  - a. Dog park – inexpensive to install, used by many
  - b. Ice Rink – expensive to install, used by few
5. Currently not available to Manhattan citizens
  - a. Indoor pool, weight room
6. Revenue generating and/or partnership potential
  - a. Ball tournaments, Marlins
7. Enhances a characteristic unique to Manhattan
  - a. Sunset Zoo, Linear Park Trail

Mr. Scott left early due to a prior commitment.

Mr. McMillan stated that at the November Meeting, the Board would be reviewing preliminary budgets, space allocations, education building, potential partners, etc.

The Board suggested the fall tour be held after the sites have been identified for the Indoor Facility. The Board also suggested touring Douglass Pool before the November meeting. Mr. DeWeese will set a date to tour the Douglass Pool and e-mail the Board with the date.

MISCELLANEOUS

Fall Park Tour – The tour has been set for Saturday, November 13 at 8:00 a.m. meeting at the Parks and Recreation Office.

It was moved by Mrs. Page, seconded by Mr. Brannan to adjourn the meeting. On vote, motion carried 5-0.