

PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 4, 2009

Board Present: Mark Anthony Martin, Elizabeth Jarzambek, Bery Pannkuk, Janet Luchies, Scott Grinder, Vicki Locke, Mike Zajac and John Pfund

Staff Present: Bill Deming

Unexcused: Susan Williams

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at Stuart Manor.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: The October minutes were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. New Board Members – Introduction of new members Vicki Locke and Mike Zajac.
- B. Sub-committee reports:
 1. Photo Contest: Mark Martin will contact former member Andrea Stork who offered to see this project to a completion in January.
 2. Spray Park Update: Scott Grinder informed the Board that the committee had developed brochures, solicited funding requests and created awareness events all with a good response, however the donations are low. He indicated that some people contacted had a negative perspective against Ramona as they do not want to pay to use. Scott mentioned that they are investigating other sites to build the spray park. Scott indicated that he would like a recommendation from the Park Board for his group to consider in forwarding information to City Council. The plan was developed several years ago by Parks Department staff with the focus for a “community spray park” at Ramona Park. When city funding was determined not possible due budget issues, and independent community fund raising group was created. Bill Deming indicated that one ideal all along for the spray park was having a source of revenue for yearly operation and maintenance. One site being considered is Lexington Green Park. Bill mentioned that if Lexington Green or another park site is identified for the spray park location, it would be best to reconsider the size and intent of the facility. Mike Zajac indicated that there is large number of parents who use Ramona Park and are looking forward to having the spray park located as originally planned. Other Board members commented that if funding support appears limited, maybe the spray park is not needed. Mark suggested that the board look at the advantages and disadvantages of each Ramona and Lexington Green parks for a spray park location:

RAMONA		
Advantages		Disadvantages
Beach	Playground	Entry cost
Woodlots	Fishing	Concern with community support
Infrastructure for water	Shelters	Grants may not available
Concession	Drain into lake	Distance
Opportunity to generate operational costs	Restrooms	
LEXINGTON GREEN		
Advantages		Disadvantages
Walk ability for neighborhood residents		Location
No fee		Down size ???
		Increase traffic in neighborhood
		Lack of infrastructure
		Operational costs

Due to need for completing Board goals and objectives, it was decided to table further discussion until the December meeting.

C. Proposed Goals/Goals Updates:

Mark Martin read a proposed letter to City Council regarding the status of current Park Board goal and objectives. The Board recommended submission of the letter as prepared. Discussion time was directed to new goals and objectives for the 2010-11 city fiscal year. Bill Deming explained that the new budget process begins in December with City Council planning retreat. After a lengthy discussion, the following goals were recommended for City Council consideration:

1. Kayak Event – schedule a second annual race in July, 2010.
2. Continue w/Earth Day Event – work on the success of the event for spring 2010 and continue in 2011.
3. Health Day – promote some type of community health day event during the next fiscal year.
4. Continue to participate and provide volunteer assistance with cultural and special events.

D. Collaborative Earth Day Event per Council – The board reviewed materials. Mark will contact Youth Board representatives and set time to meet.

E. Election of Officers – The Board proposed and approved the following slate of officers for the next year:

Chair – Mark Anthony Martin
Vice-chair – Mike Zajac
Secretary – Vicki Locke

SUMMARY ACTIVITY:

- A. Stuart Manor Teas – Bill stated that the teas have been a pleasant surprise with excellent participation. Additional benefits are using Stuart Manor for community activities and promoting the facility for private group use.
- B. Holiday Decorations – crews have begun the process of installing for the upcoming season.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Jarzambek, Secretary