

Minutes – December 13, 2007, 7:00 pm
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
City Hall, City of Fairfax

Present – Don Lederer, Harry Wilbur, Zinta Rogers, Gary Sidor, James Ogletree, Joe Harmon, Brian Knapp, Mike McCarty,

Staff – Leslie Hermon – Special Events Coordinator, Laura Lister – Facilities Coordinator, Richard Wyant – Athletics Supervisor

Guests – Mace Carpenter – Little League, Gary Hill – Little League, and Eliel Alfon – Principal Architect Hughes Group,

Meeting Called to order at 7:00 pm

Announcements

Welcome Donald Johns to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. His name was put forward by the seniors, and the PRAB charter has been revised per the request of the Board, and we are really pleased to have him join us.

Brian Knapp requested two presentations be brought up before the agenda and it was approved to move the two presentations to the front of the meeting.

Little League Presentation

1. Gary Hill and Mace Carpenter from the Fairfax Little League made a presentation on putting lights on two fields and storage shed in the Thaiss Memorial Park. The Little League would be responsible for all costs of the installation and upkeep.
There was discussion on the timing of the lights, security of the storage building as well as the best location and other improvements needed in the park.
Traffic problems were brought up with a solution of possibly putting in a traffic light at the entrance of the park.
It was agreed that PRAB would approve the requests of the Little League and Director McCarty would follow through and help them with what needed to be done.
Chairman Knapp asked Mike to carry through on the CIP project – a 5 year look on the Fences.

Community Center Presentation

- Eliel Alfon, from Hughes Group Architects presented three (3) different plans for the allotted space in Van Dyke Park. The first plan was a 14,000 square foot center at a 5.4 million dollar cost, the second plan was a 20,000 square foot center at a 7.1 million dollar cost, and the third plan was for a 32,000 square foot center at a 10.5 million dollar cost.
There was discussion on the three (3) options and different sizes, expansion capabilities, building placement, additional features to be added, relocating different park features, and parking.

Approval of the minutes:

Motion was made and seconded.
Minutes approved. Unanimously

Old Business

Brian Knapp request the community center be moved to the end for discussion during Member Time and CIP moved forward. Board agreed unanimously.

- a) **CIP** – i) The Board was given a handout on what Director McCarty presented to the Council. There are steps and procedures that need to be followed, and Director McCarty and Chairman Knapp took the first step by presenting the information to the Planning Commission. The presentation was well received and the time was taken to summarize eight (8) items while working purposely to show six of the eight are maintenance and safety. Chairman Knapp read the resolution from the Planning Commission, meeting held Monday, December 10, 2007.
- b) **Draper Drive** – At the public hearing held for the special use permit it was agreed the lights would be turned off at 8:30 pm. Fence issues are fine and plantings will be completed as requested. The second submission for the park will to be in by Wednesday, December 19, 2007. We have all the tools required except for the actual site plan. Bids will be awarded the first of February. Stafford should be started September 2008 and Draper in July – August 2008.
- c) **Trails Festival** – Discussion was held on meeting with Fairfax County to discuss their Trails and Sidewalks and our interest in combining our Trails Day without committing to any monies. The County is interested in a bike path and has spoken to the City of Fairfax of their interest in a program. There is a positive attitude on both sides and the County is interested in further discussion on this matter.
- d) **PRAB Website** - As per the last meeting Director McCarty prepared a list that has been distributed, to the board for approval. The Board was asked for any deletions, and/or additions they may need to be added or changed. It has been suggested that with the photos a small bio on each of the members also be added to the website. It was agreed to continue to give this further discussion at the January meeting.

New Business

Rentable Facilities Review – Richard Wyant, Athletics Supervisor, discussed the athletic fields and gyms, Laura Lister, Facilities Coordinator, went over renting Old Town Hall and the Green Acres facilities, and Leslie Herman, Special Events Coordinator, gave a presentation on the show mobile and pavilions within the parks.

Director's Report

- a) The Parks and Recreation Department will be submitting their 2008 budget next week. With money being tight for the City this year there may be some adjustments to what is being requested. This is going to be a challenge but the board should have an update by the January meeting.

b) The Holiday Craft Show was a success with 200 more attendees this year than last, and the Lights and Carols was also very well attended. Scott Silverthorne stood in for Mayor Lederer and aided the children in the lighting of the Christmas tree.

Community Center Discussion

Chairman Knapp discussed the following outline for the community center:

- a) Thank the donor, The Sherwood Family, for the gift
- b) Set the goal, preference, to have everything under one roof
- c) Investigate other sources of money - i.e. a bond
- d) Develop an advocacy program

Member Time

- a) Harry Wilber put forth the development of a time plan that would be presented to PRAB at the January meeting targeting data, sizing, and conclusions for the Community Center. This should include work sessions with PRAB as well as public outreach. Director McCarty advised that the City Council would be responsible for driving the plan, and the information should be supplied to them.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:25 pm.