

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

MAY 10, 2007

Members present: David Bauer, Arthur Little, Amy Craig, James Ogletree, Zinta Rodgers, Joseph Harmon, Brian Knapp, Esther Nasjleti

Members absent: Harry Wilbur

Staff present: Mike McCarty, Leslie Herman

Guests: Merri Banks

1) Meeting called to Order at 7:10pm

2) Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Joe Harmon and seconded. Minutes approved.

3) Old Business

a. School Board & PRAB Meeting – May 7, 2007 at City Hall Annex

1. Chairman Knapp extended thanks to Amy Craig and the School Board for hosting the Joint meeting and dinner. Mr. Little commented favorably on the School Board's hiring of Ann Monday as City of Fairfax Schools Superintendent.
2. Ms. Rodgers enjoyed hearing about the progress of the schools and construction.
3. Ms. Nasjleti commented on her surprise of the competition for school use after 3pm on weekdays.
4. Chairman Knapp said that the Joint meeting served to remind everyone that PRAB needs to keep the School Board informed of Parks and Recreation issues.

b. Update on Ashby Road

1. Chairman Knapp shared a copy of the second option of development for the Ashby Road property.

c. Update on Trails Day

1. Mr. Harmon informed PRAB that the final version of the Trails Day flyer has been made. Trails Day flyers will be distributed to Daniels Run, Providence and Sidney Lanier students next week.
2. Mr. Harmon reviewed the itinerary for the event.
3. Mr. Harmon reported that the Boys and Girl Scouts will have various stations located among the trails at Van Dyck Park.
4. Mrs. Nesjleti updated PRAB on exhibitors.

5. Zinta requested signage at the front of Van Dyck Park along Old Lee Highway. Chairman Knapp requested Parks & Recreation staff to handle the signage needs.
 6. Ms. Herman informed PRAB that seemommyrun.com will not be placing directional signs along the run. Mr. Sidor commented he had directional signs that could be used to assist with the bike ride. Ms. Herman also informed PRAB that “Trails Day - additional parking here” signs will be placed at Daniels Run Elementary School, Democracy Square and First Church of Christ Scientist.
 7. Mr. Ogletree informed PRAB of the raffle items secured for the event.
 8. Chairman Knapp reviewed the additional events occurring in the City on June 2 to include the Ted Grefe Park dedication and the ceremony for the interpretive center at Blenheim. Director McCarty will email PRAB the time of the dedication. Chairman Knapp encouraged PRAB representation at the dedication.
- d. Update on Stafford West
1. Chairman Knapp thanked those that attended the council meeting on April 23.
 2. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that no action was taken. The Special Use Permit has been deferred to June 12. Chairman Knapp shared the Council’s proposed downscaled version of Stafford West and expanded vision at Draper Road Park.
 3. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that much needs to precede the June 12 council meeting to include Mayor outreach and determining zoning and financial standpoint by city staff.
 4. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that there will most likely need to be another work session on May 22.
 5. Chairman Knapp laid out “Is this an acceptable vision?” in regards to the revised option by Council, and no one objected.
 6. Ms. Rodgers expressed her concern in regards to a way for citizens to voice their opinion without a referendum. Concern that at council meetings it is very difficult to gauge the overall city opinion on issues.
- e. Update on Providence Park
1. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that he had a conversation with the Mayor, and the Mayor commented on the importance to have the Providence Park project finalized by council before summer recess.
- f. Update on the Community Center
1. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that he had the opportunity to meet with the Mayor and inquired about the community center and guidance on the project. The Mayor continues to support a community center. He encouraged PRAB to secure a spot on a future work session before summer recess to discuss a community center and address the viability of Green Acres as a permanent community center.

2. Chairman Knapp proposed that the Subcommittee on the community center prepare a power point presentation for council and gave direction on what to cover.
- g. Update on Park Rules and Regulations Sub-Committee
 1. Chairman Knapp mentioned there has been some pressure on this topic due to Stafford. Director McCarty informed PRAB that none of the Park Rules and Regulations are in the City code meaning none of them are enforceable by the Police Department.
- h. Update on School Use Agreement Update
 1. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB members that were not present at the joint meeting with the School Board that it was a great meeting and they were wonderful hosts. He also informed them that the agreement is moving on to the next stages of approval in front of Council.
- 4) New Business
 - a. July 4th Parade/Event
 1. Ms. Herman gave an update on activities related to the July 4th parade and evening show to include the theme, grand marshal, honorary grand marshals, schedule of events, high school marching bands, evening show, and sponsors.
 2. Ms. Herman provided a written report for PRAB's review.
 - b. Community Garden
 1. Mr. Ogletree defined a community garden
 2. Mr. Ogletree would like to see the City offer a community garden in some future location.
 3. Ms. Rodgers mentioned her support for dog parks.
 - c. Sprayground – Alternative Funding
 1. Mr. Harmon questioned Director McCarty as to what happens to revenue from Parks and Recreation activities and proposed using a portion of the revenue to support CIP projects. Director McCarty explained the City's financial process in regards to the general fund, revenue and expenses.
 2. Director McCarty outlined the possible benefits of creating a foundation such as Friends of Parks and Recreation that is a 501C3 that can qualify to get additional funds.
 3. Chairman Knapp requested Director McCarty to research how to set up a foundation and investigate options for redirecting revenue to future CIP projects.
- 5) Update from Parks and Recreation Department
Director McCarty updated PRAB on the following:
 1. The bridge at Cobbdale Park is complete.
 2. The tennis courts at Van Dyck Park are complete.

3. Active registration training begins the third week of May for eight days.
4. The move of the Parks and Recreation Department into City Hall will take place mid to late August.
5. The Youth Coordinator position survived the budget. The position has not been posted.
6. Sod was put in at Draper Park. Draper 1 is open. The sod at Draper 2 is almost gone due to too much use and poor soil.
7. The plans for drainage, fence, and a water fountain at Ratcliffe Park are currently being reviewed.

6) Members Time

- a. Mr. Little - while visiting Disney World, saw the spraygrounds. Thought they were very nice. Commented on rowing and the active involvement of Fairfax High School at Sandy Run, a property owned by NVRPA. Highly recommended seeing a regatta.
- b. Ms. Craig – apologize for missing last months meeting.
- c. Ms. Rodgers – participated in the trash pick up day in Little River Hills. Commented on the Father/Daughter dance and when will Mother/Son event be held. Won't be able to attend Trails Day, participating in the Race for the Cure.
- d. Mr. Bauer – will not be able to attend Trails Day. Commented on the intern working for the city being able to help with some of the PRAB projects.
- e. Mr. Sidor – commented on the City purchasing Eleven Oaks Elementary School and questioned where were the buses going to park. Ms. Craig added that assistant city manager Dave Hodgkins was working on solving that issue. Mr. Sidor informed PRAB of the FPYC Mother's Day race on Sunday at 1:30pm, there are family relays also.
- f. Mr. Knapp – Requested Mr. Harmon to mention the non-participation of the Volksmarchers to John Mason so there are no surprises at Trails Day.

7) Next meeting – June 14, dinner will be served. Chairman Knapp said that the agenda will include a review of PRAB's SWOT. Staff will highlight what has been done and not done since the Fall.

8) Adjournment at 9:15pm.

