

Minutes – October 11, 2007
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
City Hall

Present: David Bauer, Amy Craig, Joseph Harmon, Dr. Habib Kahn, Brian Knapp, Esther Nasjleti, James Ogletree, Zinta Rodgers, Harry Wilbur.

Absent: Arthur Little, Gary Sidor

Guest: Donald Lederer from the Community Appearance Committee, Council Woman Patrice Winter, Council Women Joan Cross, Paul Cunningham from the Planning Commission, Tim Cooke president of Old Lee Hills Civic Association, Tim Hogan, Eagle Scout.

Staff: Michael McCarty, Bertha McClung, Christina Hurdle.

- 1.) Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm
- 2.) Minutes were approved unanimously.
 - A. Discussion on Item 7 from the minutes regarding the name of Stafford Park and Draper Drive Park. Chairman Knapp would seek further direction from the City Council if they would want to rename these parks. One suggestion was a naming contest with children. Chairman Knapp requested that Council Women Winter share with the rest of the City Council that PRAB would like to be considered for any park name changes.
- 3.) Public Participation
 - A. Tim Cook, President of the Old Lee Hills Civic Association presented their proposal to fund an Eagle Scout Project conducted by Tim Hogan. The project proposes the instillation of dog waste post/bag dispensers at two locations in Daniels Run Park. This is a result of people not picking up after their dogs. The project is funded by the Civic Association grant from the City. Mr. Cook also indicated that the Civic Association would continue to replace the bags in perpetuity. Mr. Cook also requested that trash cans be located near the posts. The timeline is to have this completed in the spring of 2008.

Mr. Hogan explained the process of his project for PRAB.

Director McCarty outlined the City process to complete this project. Director McCarty indicated that coordination with the Park Supervisor would be critical to determine the best locations for the patrons, availability of trash receptacles and trash pick up. Director McCarty would also recommend that an agreement would be drawn up.

Council Women Winter recommended that the Eagle Scout incorporate a study for the effectiveness of the dog posts reducing the waste.

Mr. Lederer recommended contacting other Civic Associations to cover other entrances of the park.

Mrs. Rodgers indicated that we should consider locations further in the trails of the park.

Chairman Knapp indicated that PRAB will determine the next steps and discuss this at the next PRAB meeting and get back with Mr. Cook and Mr. Hogan.

4.) Old Business

A. Park Foundation

Chairman Knapp gave background information on the potential for a Park Foundation. The meeting will be held on 10/30/2007 at 7:00pm at City Hall. Questions for the consultant should be forwarded to him prior to the meeting.

B. PRAB Charter and Park Rules-Chairman Knapp updated PRAB on the approval of the park rules by the City Council and thanked PRAB for their hard work. The Park Rules is a living breathing document and changes can be made as we get feedback.

Mrs. Craig had a concern with the Park Rules requirement of 10 people or more requiring a permit.

C. PRAB Charter-Chairman Knapp also updated PRAB on the upcoming meeting to approve the PRAB Charter on 10/23/2007. Chairman Knapp encouraged all of PRAB to attend.

D. Community Center-Director McCarty updated PRAB on the approval of City Council to conduct a feasibility study for the community center. The Hughes Group has been secured to conduct the feasibility study. Director McCarty also informed PRAB that the Hughes Group would be meeting with PRAB on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 7:30pm.

Council Women Winter informed PRAB that Council is not looking at a swimming pool.

5.) New Business

A. CIP-Chairman Knapp asked comments on the format of the Capital Projects and outlined the rationale for development of the format. Mr. Kahn made some comments on the presentation of the department and PRAB to the planning commission last year stating that it was very well done.

The capital plan requests were reviewed item by item.

Mrs. Rodgers made comments on the design and future planning for the signs

Chairman Knapp made comments about Ashby Road and stressed to Council Women Winter and Cross, that this is a public works project and PRAB and the Parks and Recreation Departments involvement is only for the small park improvements. The delay is not a result of PRAB and the Parks and Recreation Department. Chairman Knapp also indicated that he had a conversation with the City Manager to discuss this issue.

Mr. Harmon asked why the amount was increased from \$100,000 to \$200,000 for the spray ground. Director McCarty indicated that the \$100,000 was not enough to complete the project with City labor and possible City requirements to build such a site. Mr. Harmon would like to get a hard quote for the project. Chairman Knapp asked Director McCarty to work on a quote over the next few months.

Mr. Lederer indicated that the out years for the projects do not take into account inflation. Chairman Knapp stated that he did not want to focus on including inflation on the out years. Director McCarty's internal document includes the inflation.

Chairman Knapp requested that Mrs. Craig share all capital projects that impact schools with the School Board.

Chairman Knapp discussed the logic for the lights to bring all field and athletic lighting up to current standards. Council Women Cross asked if we could take advantage of grouping all of our lighting projects for cost savings. Director McCarty indicated that we can leverage the county contract for athletic field lighting.

Chairman Knapp indicated the philosophy change to no longer replace individual pieces of equipment but replace the full playground bringing them up to standards.

Mr. Cunningham indicated that the Master Plan item is really important and the Planning Commission is glad to see this included.

- B. Ratcliffe Park-Director McCarty updated PRAB on the Ratcliffe Park drainage project. The project has been put on hold until some additional changes are made to the submitted plan and Council approves in a future work session. The project will only involve drainage in the play area, fencing along Sager and a water fountain.

Chairman Knapp informed Director McCarty that the fencing was only supposed to be on Sager near the basketball court.

Mr. McCarty will keep PRAB informed of the progress as it's reviewed by Council.

- C. Trails Festival-the Trial Festival is June 7, 2008. Chairman Knapp asked for volunteers to coordinate the festival and indicated the need to have all activities operate from Van Dyck Park. Mrs. Nasjleti

Director McCarty indicated that he would be including this event as a proposed event in the FY09 budget submission.

6.) Update from Parks and Recreation Department

- A. Director McCarty talked about the Fall Festival and that we have 48 more vendors, exceeded revenues and that the admission is Free.

Director McCarty informed PRAB the Leslie Herman with Joe Kirby coordinated a volunteer clean up and refurbishment event by Volunteer Fairfax and Ernst and Young. Over 100 volunteers participated re-shingling the pavilions, mulching playgrounds, cleaning playgrounds and planting at Van Dyck and Providence Park.

Director McCarty informed PRAB of the replacement of the individual playground equipment and fit trail at Ranger Road.

Director McCarty informed PRAB that Commission on the Arts membership has increased from 11 members to 15 members with the approval of the City Council.

Director McCarty informed PRAB of the coordination of the Witch Watch and trick or treat event on October 31, 2007 in Old Town Fairfax with GMU students.

Bertha McClung talked about our online registration and that 23% of our registrations were done online. She would be at the Festival with 3 computers to take any registration. She talked about Afterschool

program that is at Daniels Run Elem. She ran a program last year with 112 children registered this year there is 160 attending. She is looking into having another program at Providence Elem. Dan Phillips is know a full time employee with Parks & Recreation he is our Teen and Youth Coordinator.

Chairman Knapp stressed to Council Women Cross and Winter that the Parks and Recreation staff has added a number of new things to bring more people and vendors to the event while keeping the character of the event. Your views will be welcome.

Chairman Knapp asked Director McCarty to share the Kitty Pozer document that was developed by PRAB and share that with Community Development and Planning office.

- 7.) Member Time
 - A. Mr. Wilber indicated that he was please with PRAB's support of public art. Some sculptors will have some pieces on display at the Fall Festival in Kitty Pozer Garden.
 - B. Mrs. Craig informed Director McCarty and PRAB that the tennis courts and the track replaced this coming summer. Director McCarty shared the potential plans to broadcast live the fireworks and evening show for the 4th of July. This will involve fiber optic cable being installed. Director McCarty asked Mrs. Craig to follow up with the field conditions at Lanier Middle School.
 - C. Mr. Harmon recommended moving the February 14, 2008 date due to Valentines Day.
- 8.) Adjournment: 9:45pm