



City of Belton - Parks Board
Meeting Minutes
Harris Community Center, Simpson Room
401 N. Alexander Street
Belton, TX
Tuesday, September 7, 2010 – 5:30 P.M.

A meeting of the Belton Parks Board was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2010, in the Simpson Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Mike Ratliff, Joe Brooks, Diane Ring, and Jim Deeken. City staff in attendance included: Harris Center Manager Sandy Slade and Public Works Director Les Hallbauer.

1. Call to Order.

Chair Diane Ring called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

2. Public Comments.

There were no public comments.

3. Consider minutes from the August 2, 2010 Parks Board meeting.

With one minor change to attendance, minutes were approved.

4. Receive end of season report from the Belton Youth Softball Association.

President Jeremy Glover, Vice-President Mike Thompson, and incoming Secretary Gwenda Thompson presented report to Board. Key items mentioned, not reflected in report are:

- Letter received by Glover indicating that the financials are missing and will be provided soon.
- BYSA had a slight increase to fees this season, making registration \$75 a player, up \$5 from 2009.
- Their concession stand is out-sourced with the Association receiving 10% of gross sales.
- Will host a state tournament next year.
- Glover asked about possibly having sponsor banners placed on the fences at the park, to supplement the Association's income.
- Glover also mentioned requiring coaches to become "ACE" Certified – Level I, a 1-hour course offered to assist coaches, at a \$25 fee.
- This is Jeremy Glover's last year to be President of the Association.
- BYSA would like to do work at the ballfields, maybe twice a month during off season. Hallbauer indicated that this would not be a problem if arranged through Parks Department.
- The Association would like to have better storage at the fields. Les Hallbauer told the Association that if they would provide the storage facility, the City would build the slab to place it on.
- The Association would like the light panels to be marked for better instruction next year.
- The Association is projecting a 3 to 5% growth next year.

Sandy Slade informed the Board that from the Association's roster, 96 children were from inside the Belton city limits and 225 are from outside the Belton city limits. There were a total of 321 children in the Association.

5. Receive end of season report from the Belton Youth Baseball Association.

President Ben Lopez presented report to Board. Lopez thanked Slade, as well as, Parks crew with the smooth transition this season. Key items mentioned, not reflected in report are:

- 436 volunteer background checks were approved out of 450 applications. Contract service with Public Data.com (one year membership \$39.99 – 600 lookups).
- Texas Teenage Baseball has approximately 20,000 players with nearly 1,000 in Belton League.
- Lopez said that a Board member from the Association could donate materials and labor with concession stand repairs needed due to termite damage. Also, another Association Board member could provide needed materials and labor for ice machine.
- Lopez said the Association would like the City to consider assisting the organization with managing the financial piece of the Association, along with dirt and maintenance costs. Ring told

Lopez that the City staff is stretched very thin and that the Association should continue to assume that the responsibility will remain the Associations for quite some time.

- \$5,500 in cash was missing. \$1,630 was recovered in a misplaced bank bag at a home.
- Nearly \$10,000 was distributed to state tournament teams based on an opening balance of a bank statement, which did not accurately depict the actual available funds in the account.
- According to Lopez, there was no “control” at registrations and concessions. Money was not counted each night and deposited. Concession workers were paid, in cash, from that night’s earnings.
- Each team pays a \$60 buyout prior to the beginning of the season, to not work concessions. This does not pay for the concessions.
- A \$4,000 personal loan was given to the Association from an Association Board member once the bank notified the Association of the deficiency in funds.
- BYBA is the only League that Lopez is aware of that provides pants to all players.
- Loss in monies at tournaments, due mainly to age of tournament conducted. Lopez indicated that the older kids do not bring the crowds as younger ones do.

Ring asked if an independent audit would be conducted. Lopez said that they (Association) are looking into all of the financials at this time.

Brooks said that there is no reason for a concession stand to not make money.

Slade suggested that perhaps once BYBA finishes reviewing the financials, that they could bring a written plan for how they will conduct the league in the spring of 2011, knowing that the League will need to use money from registrations from season 2011 to pay outstanding liabilities from the 2010 season. The Parks Board agreed and Lopez said that could be done.

6. Receive an update from Sandy Slade on the City’s Fee and Rate Schedule, relating to the Parks Department.

Slade informed the Board that some fee adjustments were made to stay competitive with market area. Ring asked about updated information regarding fees for soccer and Mr. Frank Diaz’ request from Parks Board meeting held on August 2, 2010. Slade informed the Board that Mr. Diaz was not allowed to play on Temple’s field due to a ban; however, Belton’s fees are in line with Temples for adult league play. No adjustment warranted at this time.

7. Review the recreation forms to be used by the City’s new Recreation division.

Board reviewed forms. Slade indicated a misprint of the light fee on the proposed Park Reservation Permit. The light fee will be changed to \$25. With one other minor spelling change, the Board concluded that the forms appeared ready for use, once new Fee and Rate Schedule is approved by City Council.

8. Consider revisions to league agreements, including key/scoreboard remote checkout and return policies.

Board had no changes to the suggested amendments made to agreements.

9. Receive comments from Board on Nolan Creek study.

Slade informed the Board that the Corps is waiting to hear from Ft. Worth Corps office on a decision for the lease. Ring said the only comment she has at this time, is that we need to be mindful of all projects that could be completed for the amount of money this one project would appear to cost. No other comments were made from the Board.

10. Board and/or staff comments.

Slade informed Board that the letter addressed to Lonestar in packet was also mailed to the Lonestar Corporate office in Austin.

11. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.