



City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Simpson Room
401 N. Alexander Street
Belton, TX
Monday, July 1, 2013 – 5:30 pm

A meeting of the City of Belton Parks Board was held on Monday, July 1, 2013, in the Simpson Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Chair Diane Ring, Josh Pearson, Daniel Bucher, Joshua Van Schoik, and T.R. McLaughlin. City Staff in attendance included City Manager Sam Listi, Recreation & Events Director Sandy Slade, Parks Superintendent Dennis Browning, and Recreation Coordinator Matt Bates

1. Call to Order.

Chair Diane Ring called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

2. Selection of Board Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Bucher nominated Mr. Pearson as Chair. Mr. T.R. McLaughlin seconded the nomination and the nomination approved unanimously. Pearson nominated Bucher as Vice Chair. Mr. Van Schoik seconded the nomination and the nomination approved unanimously.

Mr. Pearson chaired the remainder of the meeting.

3. Public Comments.

There were no public comments.

4. Consider minutes from the February 21, 2013, Parks Board meeting.

Mr. Pearson indicated that one change needed to be made to the minutes to include Mr. Ratliff's motion and Mr. Pearson second on item #6, with the Board unanimously approving to recommend to City Council the naming of Carla Kay Park. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mrs. Ring and seconded by Mr. Bucher. Minutes were approved unanimously with the single change.

5. Consider minutes from the March 4, 2013, Parks Board meeting.

Mr. Pearson indicated that he was not in attendance at this meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Bucher and seconded by Mr. T.R. McLaughlin. Minutes were approved unanimously with the single change.

6. Consider minutes from the May 6, 2013, joint Parks Board and Planning and Zoning Commission meeting.

Mr. Bucher indicated that Mr. Tyson McLaughlin was not in attendance at this meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mrs. Ring and seconded by Mr. Van Schoik. Minutes were approved unanimously with the single change.

7. Receive an end of season spring soccer report from Lonestar Soccer representative Raymond Cenicerros.

Due to the absence of Mr. Cenicerros, the Board tabled this item to the next Parks Board meeting currently scheduled for Monday, August 5, 2013.

8. Receive an end of season spring soccer report from Belton Christian Youth Center representative Raymond Cenicerros.

In the absence of Mr. Cenicerros, Executive Director Ms. Melissa Parker gave the Belton Christian Youth Center end of season report. Parker told the Board that there were not many high points to

the season, as enrollment in the sport went down and costs went up. She indicated that from the figures it appears that there was a \$3,000 loss on the season. She said that the loss was not all contributed to the new per player fee. Parker believes that when people begin to accept the new rate to play, things should look better with next season.

Parker told the Board that their wishes for capital improvements are generally the same each year, including lighting for the fields. Ring asked the age of the oldest group to which Parker replied 14. Pearson asked what the old fee was and Parker said \$65. She went on to say that the new \$75 fee pays for the fee to the City and addresses other higher costs, plus makes up for decrease in sponsors.

Parker said that as the Executive Director for BCYC, she would like to see the majority of donated funds to go toward the after school and daycare needs of their children. She said the sports are extra and that she really loves the lessons learned from the sports, but that comingling the funds are not a good idea. She said that if they continue to lose money, then the sport could not continue.

Conversation continued about the time adjustments related to light requests and the problematic parking situation. McLaughlin asked if BCYC had considered a 3v3 tournament to raise future funds for the sport. Parker told the Board they had considered hosting a tournament. Pearson asked if the numbers related to the inside and outside the city limits were about the same as past and Slade said yes, suggesting that perhaps the unknown might be a little higher.

9. Receive a report on recreational activities from Recreation Coordinator Matt Bates.

Bates gave the Board an overview of the National Park and Recreation Month activities to be held on Saturday, July 13th. He said that the department is organizing another disc golf tournament tentatively marked for Saturday, August 3rd. The Board continued to discuss the events.

Ring asked if we notified UMHB about the games and Matt said yes, he intends to get with Susan Weaver.

10. Receive a report on special events from Recreation and Events Director Sandy Slade.

Slade informed the Board that the department is currently taking Youth Advisory Commission applications and to please encourage children in 9 to 12 grades to apply. Slade said that there are currently 11 applications turned in already.

Slade gave the Board an overview of the department's special events coming up in the next few months, including Summerfest, Sizzling Sounds in the Park, in Yettie Polk Park. This event will be held every Sunday in August from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. She mentioned some other events on the horizon with Movie in the Park, September 13 in Heritage Park and preparations have started for Christmas on the Chisholm Trail, December 14.

11. Board and/or Staff comments.

Mr. Listi gave the Board an update on the progress of the Capital Improvement Projects. He said that the Council has decided to proceed with the Certificate of Obligation (CO) sale for funding a large portion of the projects. Listi said that the City Council will conduct a formal vote on the item at the July 9 City Council meeting. Listi said that there is an opportunity for a citizen-led petition that would force a vote. If the petition emerges with approximately 450 signatures (5% of registered voters), that would force a November election. If no petition is produced, the money from the CO sale would be in-hand by September 11, 2013. Listi also said that the tax impact is still unclear at this moment; however, the maximum impact would only be \$.0235. Listi told the

Board that the Council feels an additional \$1 million needs to be added for street improvements. Pearson asked if that money was “dog-eared” for anything in particular, to which Listi replied no. Listi said that is putting together a Master Thoroughfare Plan and the Public Works Director Mike Huber will be conducting a street inventory and a ratings system. He said the timeline would be early next year before that is complete. Ring said that the City needs more positive publicity to clarify the reasons behind the funding decisions.

Van Schoik said that he would supply the information on the recreation leagues and special events to the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors meeting, similar to a corporate challenge. He said that he would do the same for the YAC applicants.

Slade told the Board that there will be a re-launch of the Belton Legacy Program soon and hoping to have it to the Board for consideration at the next scheduled Parks Board meeting. She gave the Board an overview of the program.

Parks Board discussed the results of One Community One Day and the Better Belton Cleanup efforts.

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned 6:24 pm.