



Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 4, 2012 - 7:30 p.m.

Municipal Building Meeting Room C

Attended by: Board members Hugh Beal, David Franklin, Susana Montoya, and Bruce Parry. Also present were Commissioners Dave Brumfield and Kelly Fraasch, Director of Public Works, Tom Kelley, Nicole Oeler with Gateway Engineers and Director of Recreation, David Donnellan.

Absent: Board Members Patrick Eberz, Bill Moorhead and John Vogel

I. Approval of the November 6, 2012 Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

II. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

III. Recreation Bond Update

Donnellan reported that the Commissioners approved the \$4.8 million bond on November 13. The approved ordinance reads, "shall consist of recreation and public works improvements, excluding artificial turf improvements."

Donnellan also reported a draft RFP for the swimming pool professional design services was presented to the commission on November 26. A few adjustments will be made prior to advertising. Construction is planned to begin at the end of the 2013 swim season and finish in May of 2014.

IV. Park Projects Update

Donnellan reported that the tennis center sidewalk project was awarded to Excalibur Construction on November 26 for \$46,000. He also reported: Public Works completed the pavilion roof replacement in Rockwood and the Brafferton Field improvements are being held off pending review by the new Sports Advisory Board. Nicole Oeler from Gateway Engineers presented a site plan for Highland Terrace Park. The park includes a small piece of play equipment, a picnic table, a sway bench, regular bench and play surface. A retaining wall was put in to maintain a 10 foot wide access route over to the basketball courts for future renovations, paving equipment etc. A fence is to be at the top of the hill for protection from falls. The sidewalk along Sunset Drive will be extended, and enter the park.

Engraved bricks will be located in the walkway at the terminus of the walkway in the park. Tom Kelley reported that the playground equipment was received and is being stored until the site is prepared.

Donnellan reported that progress is being made in putting specifications together for the other planned recreation improvement projects.

Kelley reported that the sidewalk was taken out at Iroquois and a new sidewalk will be put in, and that tree trimming needs to be done.

V. Robb Hollow Project Options

Donnellan reported that there have been a number of proposals for Robb Hollow Park, and that Nicole Oeler would report on the latest proposal, provide cost estimates and answer questions.

Brumfield indicated that athletic fields are not part of the current Robb Hollow plans, final plans are not complete and that input from the PAB is desired.

Parry questioned whether funds should go toward Robb Hollow Park improvements, as it was not high on the PAB's priority list. A lengthy discussion followed on the merits of investment in Robb Hollow.

Franklin questioned whether investment would increase utilization of the park.

Beal stated that the proposal would provide parking which would improve access and activity and transform the present leaf mulching site into a beautiful park with recreational amenities.

Brumfield stated that development of Robb Hollow may allow restrictions to be lifted from other municipal property, and permit leaf operations to be moved.

Fraasch stated that Public Works improvements are a focus for the Commission. A storage facility is a planned capital improvement, and efficiency and space planning improvements are part of the plans for Robb Hollow.

Brumfield stated that we need to take care of the land we have and that development of Robb Hollow may allow the sale of other unused property in the municipality creating revenue, that may cover the costs of the project. He asked the board to consider if money were to be invested in Robb Hollow, what is the best way to develop the park.

Montoya stated that building a nature center should be a long term project, and that the environment would need to be restored from the leaf operation over time before building the structure. Montoya suggested that having bird watching and a dog area in the same location were not compatible interests.

Oeler reported that the nature center would include plumbing, restrooms and classrooms.

Franklin stated that it was not advisable to locate a dog park near a busy road.

There was not a majority in support of the proposed improvements to Robb Hollow.

VI. Sports Authority Board Update

Brumfield reported that the Sports Advisory Board (SAB) will seek representation from all sports groups and have school district and municipal representation. He said the SAB will deal with all types of athletic issues and facilities, and will be a permanent board as opposed to an ad hoc committee. The board is expected to meet beginning in January 2013, and will have up to 13 members from various sports interests, two at large members, and a representative from the PAB. It was unclear as to whether the PAB representative would be a voting position.

Dave Franklin was recommended as the representative to the Sports Advisory Board.

VII. Board and Authority Annual Input Form

Donnellan presented the form. The form was approved by the board for submission.

VIII. New Business

Parry inquired about the Kossman property. Brumfield reported that a plan has not been submitted to the municipality other than the two office building / office park plans. There was also a preliminary LA Fitness plan over a year ago, but there have been no further submissions regarding that plan.

IX. Announcements

Fraasch stated she did not know if she will be the Commission liaison to the PAB next year. She stated that she enjoyed her time with the PAB. Parry thanked her for her service, and commended her on her contributions.

Pam Burrett invited the PAB to come to Bird Park on December 15 at 8:00 a.m. for a bird count.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.