



## **Parks Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 2, 2013 - 7:30 p.m.  
Municipal Building Meeting Room C**

Attended by: Board members Hugh Beal, Carrie Beck, Susana Montoya, Bill Moorhead, and John Vogel. Also present were Commissioner Kelly Fraasch and Director of Recreation, David Donnellan.

Absent: Board members David Franklin and Bruce Parry.

The board welcomed new member, Carrie Beck. Ms. Beck introduced herself and shared some of her background.

### I. Approval of the March 5, 2013 Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

### II. Citizen Comments

Kristen Westbrook and Jude' Ernest of Parkview Drive spoke in favor of having a dog park in Mt. Lebanon. They spoke of the many benefits of a dog park, and shared some information on how Greentree's dog park is operated. They said an enclosed area, roughly one half to one third the size of a baseball field, would be adequate. Ms. Ernest suggested the area on Cedar Boulevard, adjacent to the Public Works yard, as a good location. Hugh Beal asked David Donnellan if the Recreation Department could handle the administrative responsibilities associated with a dog park, such as registration and approval of applicants. Mr. Donnellan indicated with management and regulations the park could be operated properly, and that recreation staff could handle the administrative tasks involved. Kelly Fraasch stated that residents in the area of Cedar Boulevard near public works were in favor of anything that would improve the aesthetics in that area including a dog park.

Doug Descalzi of North Meadowcroft Avenue stated that he was in favor of a Natural Areas Study for the parks. Mr. Descalzi also voiced concern over the removal of the pet waste receptacle and the installation of a 'No Dogs Allowed' sign in Twin Hills Park. He stated that the changes were very abrupt, and that he would like the park returned to the way it was. John Vogel explained that dogs are not permitted in this park by the ordinance. He also shared that the municipality was making an effort to have signage consistent with the existing regulations.

### III. Girl Scout Brownie Troop Butterfly Garden Proposal

David Donnellan referenced a letter from a local Girl Scout Troop interested in installing a butterfly garden in Highland Terrace Park. The group was unable to attend, but Mr. Donnellan will encourage them to attend the next meeting.

### IV. Review and Prioritization of Park Improvement Projects

The board reviewed two lists of possible projects, one for capital projects and one for lower cost projects and improvements. The board identified the top 10 capital projects. The remaining projects were not prioritized. The prioritized list of capital projects is attached to these minutes.

The list of smaller projects was not prioritized.

### V. Park Inspection Reports for April 2013

Completed reports were collected. Parks were reassigned for inspections as follows:

Bird – Susana Montoya  
Williamsburg- Bruce Parry  
Country Club- Bruce Parry  
Sunset Hills- Bruce Parry  
Highland Terrace- Carrie Beck  
Meadowcroft- Susana Montoya  
Iroquois- Bill Moorhead  
Mt. Lebanon (Main) – Kelly Fraasch  
Rockwood- Carrie Beck  
McNeilly- John Vogel  
Rob Hollow- Bill Moorhead  
Church Place- Dave Franklin  
Twin Hills Trails- Hugh Beal

(Park inspection reports are submitted each April, July, and October).

### VI. Home Rule Charter (Commissioner Fraasch)

Kelly Fraasch reported that an ad hoc committee is reviewing the Home Rule Charter. She said it had been 20 years since the last review. She announced that there would be a meeting on May 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers and that public input is encouraged, and that a representative from each board is requested to attend. John Vogel requested that this be an agenda item for the next meeting.

### VII. New Business

Kelly Fraasch reviewed the concept plan for the pool renovation project.

### VIII. Announcements

Kelly Fraasch announced that the next Parks Advisory Board meeting would be videotaped and televised. She shared that meeting topics could be viewed individually on the website. Ms. Fraasch also reported there would be a tree planting at Spalding Circle on Thursday, April 4 from 9:00 a.m. – noon for 25 trees. All were invited to attend.

Pam Burret announced that on May 4 in Bird Park volunteers are invited to participate in mulching the trails.

## IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

### PAB Capital Improvement Prioritization 2013

April 2, 2013

Priority	Park	Project	Estimated Cost	Comments
1	Robb Hollow	Robb Hollow Park Beautification Project	\$265,000	Improvements to the park along Cedar Boulevard including the addition of a Dog park.
2	Various	Natural Areas Study	\$71,379	Strategy to restore Bird, Robb Hollow, Twin Hills and Hoodridge parks to more natural condition.
3	Robb Hollow	Robb Hollow Park Site Improvements	\$418,425	Access road, move leaf operation, improve green space
4	Sunset Hills	Master Plan Improvements	\$230,000	Defined entry area, accessibility improvements, parking, half court basketball and playground.
5	Rockwood	Master Plan Improvements	\$290,732	Phase 2 improvements: accessible walkway, new pavilion, remove parking lot, add play equipment.
6	Meadowcroft	Master Plan Improvements	\$51,980	Accessibility improvements.
7	Williamsburg	Master Plan Improvements	\$252,000	Phase 2 improvements: pathway/accessibility improvements to Earlswood Avenue and Lindenwood Avenue and entry signage
8	Bird Park	Natural Areas Management Plan	\$353,942	Phase 1 implementation of Natural Areas Plan.
9	Bird Park	Natural Areas Management Plan	\$118,802	Phase 2 implementation of Natural Areas Plan.
10	Robb Hollow	Robb Hollow Park Nature Center	\$367,500	Classroom building and 2 shelters in the upper area of
	Main	Pavilion/ Concert Stage	\$66,150	New pavilion is constructed near Martha's playground to accommodate additional rentals and serve as a covered concert stage.
	Main Park	Amphitheatre		Stone terracing in western slope adjacent to the new concert stage and Martha's Playground.
	Main Park	Morgan Drive Improvements		New sign for Mt. Lebanon Park, sidewalks and landscaping improvements.
	Main Park	Basketball Court Area		Paving, lighting, fencing improvements and drop off area.
	Main Park	Skate Park		Installation of a skate park near the basketball courts.
	Pennsylvania Boulevard	Creation of a linear park.		Acquisition of properties along the Pennsylvania Blvd. right of way to create a linear park.
	McNeilly	Athletic Fields	\$4,150,900	Athletic fields, parking, lighting and restroom building and access road.

\*All projects in 2013 dollars.