

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

July 9, 2015 Regular Meeting

The July 9, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7:12 pm in the Social Room of the Oak Ridge Civic Center with Alan Tatum, Chair, presiding.

Roll Call

Present: Naomi Asher, Ray Garrett, David Kitzmiller, Fay Martin and Alan Tatum.

Absent: John Clayton, Steve Dittner, Dan Robbins and Ken Rueter.

Approval of the June 4, 2015 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the June 4, 2015 meeting was made by Ray and seconded by Fay. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

None.

Committee Reports

Bell Update:

- The first public input session for the Bell Pavilion Project was held prior to the regular Park Board meeting.

Bike/Ped Committee:

- Rails-to-Trails: Ray reported that he had no update. Jon commented that he believed it would be a long process to negotiate a settlement with CSX.
- Proposed North Ridge Parking Lot: No action from the City.
- Proposed East Fork Poplar Creek Trail: Ray proposed a walkthrough of the trail alignment with Jon now that verbal agreements have been reached with property owners along the route.
- Sinkhole Trail: No update on final agreement with DOE. David stated that he thought there had been a ribbon cutting.

Community Funding Opportunities Committee:

- Naomi suggested that Girls on the Roof, a strategic marketing firm from Knoxville, redesign the Recreation & Parks Department website, modeling it after the new website they are designing for the Convention & Visitors Bureau. They have offered to do it "cheap", but funding for such a project is not

currently identified in the Department budget. Naomi will request a proposal so the request can be evaluated.

- Naomi stated that she is having difficulty completing the brochure because she no longer has access to Adobe software. Jon suggested that Naomi Thompson, with the Recreation & Parks Department, may be able to assist.

Long Term Strategy/Needs Assessment:

- John was not present for the meeting. Alan noted that he liked the process John developed for reevaluating the CIP priorities.
- Jon will work on updating cost estimates for the top 25 projects for inclusion with the CIP.
- Alan suggested the Board provide a letter of support for the revised CIP to the Planning Commission & City Council.
- Alan suggested that we follow through with Sherith Colverson to evaluate grant opportunities for the top 25 projects on the list.

Trail Stewardship:

- No report.

Grants:

- No report.

Programming:

- Alan suggested refining the Department presentation to a quick 20 minute talk. Discussion followed with regard to how that would be utilized. Alan recommended it be used to promote the Department to interested groups. Fay suggested it could be used to promote tennis. Naomi suggested a dance on the tennis courts as a promotional tool.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- The Board discussed the recommendation from Doug Colclasure that the Board support the recommendation of AFORR that Clark Center Park be added to the National Park Service list of cultural landscape sites. Ray noted that the discussion cited recreational activities at the park, which does not align with the Historical Park designation.
- Alan recommended tabling the discussion until next month.

Updates and Observations (Non Action Items):

- Convention and Visitor's Bureau: No report.
- The City Council Special Events Task Force: David that the Task Force approved three additional recommendations, which he felt were very similar to the three previously approved.

Director's Report:

- New basketball goals and backboards have been installed in the gym for full court play, which will allow dunking during league play. This was done as an enhancement for league play.

Future Agenda Items:

- National Park Service and Clark Center Park.

Fay made a motion to adjourn and Ray seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.
