

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting

The May 7, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7:02 pm in the Social Room of the Oak Ridge Civic Center with Alan Tatum, Chair, presiding.

Roll Call

Members present: Naomi Asher, John Clayton, Steve Dittner, Ray Garrett, David Kitzmiller, Fay Martin, Dan Robbins, Ken Rueter and Alan Tatum.

Approval of the April 9, 2015 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the April 9, 2015 meeting was made by David and seconded by Ray. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

None.

Presentation by Pat Postma on the Explore Oak Ridge app being developed by the Breakfast Rotary Club

Pat provided the Board with information about the Explore Oak Ridge app, which is being developed by the Morning Rotary Club. The app will initially focus on Jackson Square, the Marina, Haw Ridge Park, the Civic Center and AMSE. It will eventually be expanded to include "all things Oak Ridge", including Recreation & Parks facilities. Pat stated that the first beta test would begin in about a week, with temporary signs at select locations alerting people to the app. She requested permission to install the temporary signs. Jon offered to check with Community Development to find out what restrictions may exist. A motion was made by Dan and seconded by Ray to have the Board express support for the temporary signage. The motion passed unanimously. The temporary signs will eventually be replaced by permanent signs when the app is fully developed. David offered to help solicit business's to post the signs.

Committee Reports

Bell Update:

- Alan reported that he has received the engineering report and cost estimates from Barge, Waggoner, Sumner & Cannon Inc. (BWSC). He will provide it to the Board at the June 4th meeting, after review by the advisory committee.

Bike/Ped Committee:

- Rails-to-Trails: Jon reported that the appraisal from CSX has been completed, but City staff have not yet seen the results.

- Proposed North Ridge Parking Lot: Still awaiting review by the interim City Engineer.
- Proposed parking lot on West Outer Dr.: Ray has completed work for a single car pull-off parking space.
- Proposed East Fork Poplar Creek Trail: Royce Hills LLC property owners have conditionally agreed to the request to establish an easement through their property for the trail. They have requested a letter describing the use agreement. Ray has drafted a letter that he will submit to the City Attorney for review. Ken suggested Ray consider working with Legacy Parks to handle the easements and management of the trail.
- Sinkhole Trail: Ken reported that approval of the easement from DOE to Legacy Parks was expected within a week, with limited restrictions. Dave asked about the timeline for the approval process. Ken replied that it took Legacy Parks about four months to negotiate the easement with DOE. Steve pointed out that the Y12 break-in contributed to the City's inability to reach an agreement with DOE on the trail in 2012.

Community Funding Opportunities Committee:

- Naomi reported that she has been delayed moving forward as a result of changing employment.
- She also noted that she had acquired a donated website for the Bell project from Girls on the Roof.

Long Term Strategy/Needs Assessment:

- Jon provided a list of Capital Improvement and Maintenance needs. These were based on items currently in the CIP, including placeholders and funding to make repairs to the Civic Center, and requested improvements and needed maintenance not currently included in the CIP document. Jon requested that the Board assist in evaluating and prioritizing the list.
- Alan proposed a Board work session on the subject. The Board agreed to meet on Monday, May 18th at 6 pm.
- John offered to put together a spreadsheet with criteria and a ranking system for review prior to the work session.

Trail Stewardship:

- Steve reported that the Friends of Haw Ridge membership had agreed to expand their scope to include all Oak Ridge singletrack, but had realized during their discussion that the FoHR name is very well recognized, so they will keep the name while they expand their scope.
- Dan expressed unanimous support on behalf of Greenways Oak Ridge.

Grants:

- Steve reported that there are lots of grant opportunities, but someone needs to be able to do the leg work. The Board discussed the need for the City and the Schools to have a grant writer on staff. Dan made a motion that the Board recommend that the City hire a grant writer. David provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Programming:

- David requested direction from the board as to what he should be looking at as far as programming is concerned. He requested that a discussion of the issue be added to next month's agenda.
- David made a motion to recommend removal of non-resident fees. The motion died for lack of a second.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- Steve discussed the recent UT MBA student presentation on the marketing and monetization of human powered sports in Oak Ridge. He felt that it was very similar to the previous UT MBA student presentation, but felt the prior presentation was better.

Updates and Observations (Non Action Items):

- Convention and Visitor's Bureau: Steve has found that he likes the direction Marc DeRose is going with the CVB. He feels they are developing a clear vision statement and noted that they have hired Girls on the Roof to assist with website development and marketing. He now feels better about the CVB than he has in the past. He also reported that there have been discussions about locating the CVB offices in the NPS headquarters and that Marc has also suggested to the City Manager that he hire a grant writer.
- The City Council Special Events Task Force: David reported that the second meeting of the Task Force took place on April 23rd and it appears that the Task Force is moving toward making certain decisions. Jon listed the three voting items that would be on the next meeting agenda.

Director's Report:

- Secret City Festival – Jon provided an update on Festival.

Future Agenda Items:

- A discussion of the goal of the Programming Committee.

Naomi made a motion to adjourn and Fay seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The logo features a stylized green oak leaf with a blue and orange swoosh behind it. To the right of the leaf, the word "Explore" is written in a green, cursive font, and "Oak Ridge" is written in a blue, bold, sans-serif font with a trademark symbol.

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Oak Ridge Breakfast Rotary Club

Recreation & Parks Capital Improvements and Maintenance Overview

Capital Improvement Projects in Current CIP (FY2016 to FY2021)

Location	Notes	Estimated Cost	CIP Year
Briarcliff Park	Shelter and walking trail	\$ 160,000.00	2020
Carl Yearwood Park	Playground	\$ 100,000.00	2020
Elm Grove Park	Shelter	\$ 60,000.00	2020
Greenway Implementation	80% Grant, 20% match	\$ 1,000,000.00	2017
Greenway Implementation	80% Grant, 20% match	\$ 1,000,000.00	2020
Groves Park	Master Plan	\$ 20,000.00	2018
Groves Park	Parking lot	\$ 150,000.00	2019
Groves Park	Playground	\$ 100,000.00	2020
LaSalle Park	Shelter	\$ 60,000.00	2020
Milt Dickens Park	Shelter	\$ 60,000.00	2020
Rowing Improvements	8th lane, \$250K State Grant in FY16	\$ 350,000.00	2016
Solway Park	Playground & shelter	\$ 160,000.00	2021
		\$ 3,220,000.00	

Capital Improvements Placeholder Projects in Current CIP (FY2016 - FY2021)

Bobby Hopkins Baseball Field upgrades	Batting facility, warm-up areas, covered bleachers, etc.	\$ 350,000.00	N/A
Haw Ridge Park	Park development	\$ 1,000,000.00	N/A
Melton Lake Park	Splash pad	\$ 300,000.00	N/A
Melton Lake Park	Parking lot expansion	\$ 150,000.00	N/A
Carl Yearwood Skate Park	Construction of a new skate park	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Pinewood Park	Restroom/concessions for the softball & soccer fields	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Senior Enrichment Center	Construction of a new senior center	\$ 2,750,000.00	N/A
Westwood Park	Develop a neighborhood Park on the west end of town	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Wolfe Creek Park	Develop a park as part the neighborhood	\$ 150,000.00	N/A
		\$ 5,300,000.00	

Capital Maintenance Projects in Current CIP (FY2016 to FY2021)

AK Bissell Park	Picnic Shelter renovation	\$ 50,000.00	2016
ADA Compliance	Upgrade facilities to meet current ADA standards, \$35K/YR	\$ 70,000.00	2016 & 2017
ADA Compliance	Upgrade facilities to meet current ADA standards, \$50K/YR	\$ 200,000.00	2018 - 2021
Clark Center Park	Safety and ADA upgrades, contingent on transfer	\$ 200,000.00	2016
Clark Center Park	Safety and ADA upgrades, contingent on transfer	\$ 100,000.00	2017
Clark Center Park	Safety and ADA upgrades, contingent on transfer	\$ 100,000.00	2018
Clark Center Park	Safety and ADA upgrades, contingent on transfer	\$ 100,000.00	2019
Bobby Hopkins Baseball Field	Bleacher replacement	\$ 200,000.00	2018
C Field	Bleacher replacement	\$ 30,000.00	2021
Various locations	Fencing Replacement - \$35K each year funded	\$ 175,000.00	2016, 2018 - 2021
Friendship Bell project	Already committed by Council to support the project	\$ 50,000.00	2016
Highland View Park	Replace picnic shelter	\$ 45,000.00	2019
Indoor pool	Replace disinfectant system	\$ 100,000.00	2018
Yearwood softball field	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 300,000.00	2016
Jefferson softball field	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 180,000.00	2017
Bobby Hopkins baseball field	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 300,000.00	2018
AK Bissell Park walking trail	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 250,000.00	2019
ORHS East tennis courts	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 180,000.00	2020
Big Turtle softball Field	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 150,000.00	2021
Outdoor pavilion - AK Bissell Park	Replace fabric roof	\$ 400,000.00	2017
Outdoor Pool	Replace two circulation filters	\$ 125,000.00	2017
Outdoor Pool	Replace disinfectant system	\$ 100,000.00	2018
Outdoor Pool	Bath house remodel/upgrades	\$ 400,000.00	2021
TBD	Parking lot rehab	\$ 30,000.00	2018 & 2019
Assorted locations	Picnic tables	\$ 25,000.00	2016
Pinewood Softball Field	Irrigation	\$ 25,000.00	2019
Scarboro Park Playground	Replace and update for safety and accessibility	\$ 100,000.00	2020
ORHS West courts	Tennis Court refinishing	\$ 35,000.00	2017
Jackson Square courts	Tennis Court refinishing	\$ 35,000.00	2019
ORHS East courts	Tennis Court refinishing	\$ 35,000.00	2021
		\$ 4,090,000.00	

Capital Projects related to Parks in Current Public Works CIP

205 Badger Ave (Improvement)	Potential Rec & Park administrative office space	\$ 100,000.00	2016
Marina Building Renovation (Improvement)	Exterior renovation and roof replacement	\$ 125,000.00	2016 - 2018
Civic Center (Maintenance)	Roof, HVAC, etc.	\$ 1,535,000.00	2016 - 2021
		\$ 1,760,000.00	

Capital Improvement Projects not included in the current CIP

Big Turtle Softball Field	Irrigation	\$ 25,000.00	N/A
Outdoor pool	Expand & pave additional parking	\$ 60,000.00	N/A
Solway Central Park	Reconfigure loop road and parking	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Marina Park	Parking improvements for rowing participants	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Marina Park	Remove causeway asphalt & convert to park/event space	\$ 235,000.00	N/A
Tuskegee Ave	Sports Complex	\$ 4,000,000.00	N/A
Scarboro Park	Overflow parking area	\$ 45,000.00	N/A
Outdoor Pool	Shade structure	\$ 60,000.00	N/A
Outdoor Pool	Water feature	\$ 150,000.00	N/A
Outdoor Pool	Playground	\$ 100,000.00	N/A
		\$ 5,075,000.00	

Capital Maintenance Projects not included in the current CIP

Pinewood softball field	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Callia Baseball Field	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
B/C baseball/softball fields	Light Fixture Replacement	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Outdoor Pool	Replace two circulation filters	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Indoor pool	Resurface pool	\$ 30,000.00	N/A
Solway Boat Ramp	Parking lot overlay	\$ 100,000.00	N/A
Elm Grove Park	Replace basketball court	\$ 40,000.00	N/A
Cedar Hill Park	Replace basketball court	\$ 40,000.00	N/A
Solway Boat Ramp	Shoreline stabilization	\$ 150,000.00	N/A
LaSalle Park	Upgrade picnic facilities	\$ 20,000.00	N/A

All parks so equipped	Playground replacement - \$100K per each, one/year	\$ 800,000.00	N/A
Civic Center	Gym floor replacement	\$ 200,000.00	N/A
Scarboro Park	Basketball Court resurfacing	\$ 40,000.00	N/A
Scarboro Center	Gym floor replacement	\$ 80,000.00	N/A
Scarboro Center	HVAC replacement	\$ 250,000.00	N/A
Civic Center	Plaza light replacement	\$ 75,000.00	N/A

\$ 2,625,000.00