

## **Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting**

### **August 10, 2017 Regular Meeting**

The August 10, 2017 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**

Present: Mark Cantrell, Ray Garrett, David Kitzmiller, Dan Robbins, Ken Rueter, Brad Spears and Alan Tatum

Absent: Naomi Asher, Kevin Hoyt

#### **Approval of the July 20, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes for the July 20, 2017 regular meeting was made by Dan and seconded by Ken. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **Appearance and Citizen Comments**

- Alan Brogan, with the Oak Ridge Tennis Academy (ORTA) requested an open line of communication with the Board.
- Larry Creech, appearing on behalf of Doug Colclasure, requested that an overview of trail work on the Black Oak Ridge Conservation Easement (BORCE) be added to the September Park Board agenda.

#### **Unfinished Business**

None.

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Board Work Plan**

Bell Update:

- Alan reported that construction bid submittals are due August 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.
- The official groundbreaking ceremony is planned for the International Day of Peace on September 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Fundraising, which has exceeded \$700,000, has flattened out recently. It is hoped it will pick up after the groundbreaking.

#### Rails to Trails:

- Jon reported that the RFQ for preliminary engineering has been approved by TDOT and will be released sometime next week.
- Dan noted that City Council had approved the grant match unanimously.

#### Trail Development:

- Ray has engaged the services of an attorney, pro bono, to assist with addressing property owner liability concerns with regard to granting trail easements for the East Fork Poplar Creek Trail.
- Brad confirmed the Boulder trail preliminary work day will take place on August 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Brad then reported that he is looking for an entity to become trail stewards for all single track trails in Oak Ridge not currently managed by the Friends of Haw Ridge, Greenways Oak Ridge or Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning. Legacy Parks has requested that such an entity be created specifically to manage trails built under license on DOE property, but the scope could include other trails.

#### Long Range Planning:

- David is still working on the CIP spreadsheet update.
- Alan will send out the final spreadsheet from the last review for reference.
- Mark asked for some guidance on what projects have code compliance issues. Jon noted that most issues were ADA-related. He will make note of which projects have significant ADA concerns.
- Ken noted the success of outdoor pool operations this year with the newly renovated filters and other enhancements like murals and colorful shade structures.

#### Promotion Collaboration Opportunities:

- Allan reported on Naomi's behalf that she is working with some people to plan community bike rides and including Rec & Park info in an upcoming ADFAC brochure. She also continues to work with the CVB on collaborations through Explore Oak Ridge.

#### Events:

- Upcoming community bike rides, time & location TBD.
- An Emerald Ash Borer workshop to be held at the UT Arboretum Auditorium on Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8 pm. refreshments will be served at 5:30 pm. The workshop is being hosted by the Arboretum, the Environmental Quality Advisory Board and the City of Oak Ridge Electric Department.

#### **Updates and Observations (Non Action Items):**

- Ken noted that the Velo Classic was again a successful event.
- Ken provided a presentation on National Historic Preservation at the East Tennessee Technology Park (attached). There will be a groundbreaking for the History Center on September 21<sup>st</sup>. They are trying to coordinate with the Peace Bell groundbreaking the same day.
- Dan reported a bike wreck on MLG IV, suggested caution signs at the turns near the Edgemoor parking lot where the single track trails connect to the greenway.

- The Board will have a luncheon with Rec & Parks staff on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Civic center.

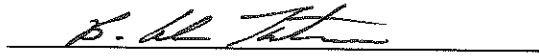
**Director's Report:**

- Jon provided an update on the Blankenship Field renovation project.

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Reevaluation of the CIP.
- A report on the BORCE trail system by Doug Colclasure.

Ray made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm., with David seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Alan Tatum