

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

January 11, 2018 Regular Meeting

The January 11, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7:07 pm in the Social Room of the Oak Ridge Civic Center with Alan Tatum, Chair, presiding.

Roll Call

Present: Naomi Asher, Mark Cantrell, Ray Garrett, David Kitzmiller, Melissa McMahan, Ken Rueter, Brad Spears and Alan Tatum

Absent: Dan Robbins

Approval of the December 14, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

The December 14, 2017 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

Present: Mary Lou Daughtery, Doug Colclasure

- Doug provided a report on west end trails and the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET) Greenway Foundation trails.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- Introduction of new Board member Melissa McMahan.

Board Work Plan

Bell Update:

- Surveying started today, with real construction expected soon – hopefully next week, weather permitting.
- Work continues on securing the carbon fiber trellis beams & bench backs.
- Fundraising has exceeded goals.

Rails to Trails:

- The Design & Engineering selection committee has conducted interviews of the four short listed firms. Once rankings are tallied negotiations will begin with the highest ranking firm.

Trail Development:

- The new trail steward organization met to name the organization. The group will have the name Clinch Valley Trails Alliance (CVTA). Naming is seen as critical to the marketing of the group and its work. The group will meet again in a couple of weeks to formalize its organizational structure.
- Ken presented a report he prepared for the Legacy Parks Foundation on new trail opportunities in the region. He also discussed with the Board CROET's conservation & stewardship objectives and plans for a future meeting to discuss those objectives with stakeholders, possibly including the Recreation & Parks department.

Long Range Planning:

- David plans to have the assembled CIP update recommendations ready for the upcoming Board work session.

Promotion Collaboration Opportunities:

- Naomi has been reelected to the Explore Oak Ridge Board, so she will continue in her role as liaison between the Boards.
- Naomi will meet with Marc DeRose (Explore Oak Ridge) again tomorrow to work on the website page for Rec & Parks. She would also like to schedule a meeting with Matt Reedy (Rec & Parks Centers, Camps & Programs Manager) to discuss social media collaboration.

Events:

- The Boys & Girls Club will be giving away bikes donated for Club participants who maintain their grades. They will have a bike ride celebration where the kids will be taught road riding safety.
- Ken noted two bike rides coming up in April – the Butterfly's for Hope ride and the Velo Classic, which has been moved from August to April.

Updates and Observations (Non Action Items):

- David noted that sports leagues appear to be growing substantially with the removal of non-resident fees for those programs. Volleyball participation has increased from eight (8) teams last year to twenty (20) teams this year, similar increases are hoped for in other sports.
- Jon provided an update on planning for the 2018 Secret City Festival. David agreed to oversee food vendors at the event.

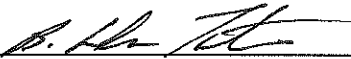
Director's Report:

- The City continues the transition to management of Centennial Golf Course from Billy Casper Golf. A new General Manager started work on Monday the 8th. He is working with a number of City staff members to finalize transition plans and to develop a budget for the course for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- The City still has not received the signed LPRF grant contract for the Blankenship Project from the State.
- At the time the agenda was written, there were no applicants for the vacancies on the Environmental Quality Advisory Board (EQAB), which serves as the City Tree Board. It was thought at the time that it might be necessary to transfer Tree Board responsibilities to the Park Board, but the EQAB seats have since been filled.

Future Agenda Items:

- None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.



Alan Tatum