

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

February 8, 2018 Regular Meeting

The February 8, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7:05 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, Melissa McMahan (arrived later), Dan Robbins, Brad Spears and Alan Tatum

Absent: Naomi Asher, Ken Rueter

Approval of the January 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

The January 11, 2017 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

Present: Mary Lou Daughtery, Doug Colclasure

Unfinished Business

- Rescheduling of the work session – After some discussion, the Board proposed Saturday, February 17th, pending availability of the other Board members and the Arboretum Auditorium.

New Business

- None.

Board Work Plan

Bell Update:

- Site work has started, with the main vertical beam set and the concrete footer poured.
- There will be a site visit on Wednesday the 14th with the architect, engineers, lighting designer, Bell Committee leaders and City staff.
- Work continues on the details of the carbon fiber trellis beams.
- The Lab has agreed to print the 3D bench backs for the project.

Rails to Trails:

- Negotiations have started with the highest ranked Design & Engineering firm, with hopes to have an agreement in place for approval of a contract at the March City Council meeting.

Trail Development:

- Ray is working on three more easement agreements for the East Fork Poplar Creek Trail. When the weather improves, he and some others will begin final flagging of the trail route on the properties under easement agreement.
- Ray would like to remove the many tires embedded in the creek bed, as they are an eyesore along the trail. Jon suggested that TDEC be contacted prior to any disturbance of the creek bed.
- Ray has secured the assistance of a grant writer to help fund things like trail signage and reimbursement to Legacy Parks for some of the costs associated with their assistance in acquiring easements.

Long Range Planning:

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

Promotion Collaboration Opportunities:

- No report.

Events:

- Dan reported that the Rotary plans to plant 100 trees on February 24th as part of 250K Tree Day. The trees will be planted at Haw Ridge, adjacent to the greenway trail. Pat Parr will also be acquiring B&B trees for planting at schools and other locations.

Updates and Observations (Non Action Items):

- Dan noted that Greenways Oak Ridge logged 250 volunteer hours in the second half of 2017.

Director's Report:

- The City has taken over management of Centennial Golf Course as of January 21st. The new general manager is working hard to get the golf operation running well, and the Superintendent is working hard on course improvements.
- The Secret City Festival planning continues, with the event shaping up to be much more similar to past successful events.

Future Agenda Items:

- None, but some discussion of a possible item in the future to evaluate parking issues at the North Boundary Trail.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.



Alan Tatum