

APPROVED

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

August 9, 2012 Regular Meeting

The August 9, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7:01pm in the Social Room of the Recreation Center with Gerry Palau, Board Chair presiding.

Roll Call

Members present included: Frank Chmielewicz, Bob Cushman, Bridgette Ellis, Allen Eubanks, Gerry Palau, Laurel Patrick and Dan Robbins. Absent were Sherith Colverson and Cathy Toth.

Approval of the June 14, 2012 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the June 14, 2012 minutes was made by Bob Cushman and seconded by Bridgette Ellis. The minutes were approved by a 6-0 vote.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

No one addressed the Board.

Committee Reports

Bike/Ped Committee- Sherith Colverson

Bob Cushman reported that at the September 13th Board meeting, the Committee plans to bring forward a recommended "Project Priority List" for the Heart of Oak Ridge corridor, spot location enhancements and "TOP 10" list of potential funding sources for 2014 – 2016 for each of the integrated project spot locations and corridor projects.

Dog Park Committee- Bridgette Ellis

Bridgette Ellis reported on the results of the recent user survey (see attached) and briefly discussed several of the key questions regarding location, desired amenities, fees, separate areas based on size of dogs, willingness to assist with the dog park and concerns. A full report containing a detailed analysis of the survey and cost estimates on construction, operation and amenities will be presented at the September 13th meeting.

Work Plan Deliverables

Chairman Palau will update the "Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Work Plan Dashboard" for the September 13th meeting. Gerry requested a meeting of the Waterfront Development Group on August 23rd at 7pm in the Social Room to begin work on a waterfront projects priority list with accompanying cost estimates in preparation for the City's Capital Improvement Program submissions this fall.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Recreation and Parks Foundation

Chairman Palau discussed the idea of establishing a Recreation and Parks Foundation and its role in funding new facilities and activities. The Board first discussed the concept almost a year ago. Several other Cities including Sevierville have established a foundation to support Recreation and Park Department efforts. Board members discussed the value of a Foundation, the process to form a Foundation, potential funding sources, disbursement of funds and the relationship between a Foundation and the proposed Land Bank. Chairman Palau queried the Board on their perspectives regarding the relative importance of undertaking an effort to establish a Foundation in comparison with other priorities in the Board's current work plan. There was not a clear consensus, but Bob Cushman was asked to gather more information on existing Foundations such as the Oak Ridge Educational Foundation and the Oak Ridge Senior Center Foundation and report back at a future meeting, prior to January, so that the Board could decide how this activity might fit into a 2013 Work Plan.

Board Governance

This item will be discussed at the September Board meeting.

North Boundary Greenway

Due to ongoing issues with the surface of the North Boundary Greenway, Dan Robbins has requested the item be added to the agenda in September. Large rock has been added to the trail by DOE and has created a difficult surface for runners/walkers and bikes riders. Although additional material has been added to the large rock surface course, footing problems persist. Chuck Spoons, DOE Reservation Management, will be contacted.

Director's Report

FY 2013 Recreation and Parks Department Goals

Josh Collins briefly discussed his Department's Goals for the upcoming year. A listing of the 2013 Goals and Department Accomplishments will be included in the FY 2013 City Budget document.

Road Race Guidelines

Josh discussed the City's proposed Road Race Guidelines and requested feedback from Board Members. Mr. Collins reviewed the process a race organizer would follow when seeking City approval for a road race in Oak Ridge. He discussed the transition that has taken place over the last two years to standardize race courses within the City and to allow the City to recover a portion of its cost for community events.

Laurel Patrick made a motion to adjourn and Bob Cushman provided a second. The meeting was adjourned at 8:57pm.

DOG PARK USER SURVEY

Model key

Enter numbers under value. Enter text in white boxes.

Italic numbers are totals of responses for that answer.

1. Do you have dogs?				
	Yes	No	I would, if park existed	
	Value	Value	Value	Total entries
	<i>120</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>147</i>

2. If you own a dog, where do you currently walk or exercise it?				
neighborhood	Melton Lake	yard	Big Turtle	Civic/Library
	Victor Ashe park	Horizon Center	Pellissippi	
	Frozen Head	Petsafe	greenways	

3. Would you like to see an off-leash dog park in Oak Ridge?				
	Yes	No		
	Value	Value		Total entries
	<i>111</i>	<i>14</i>		<i>125</i>

4. Do you have a preference on where the dog park should be located?				
No preference	East End	West End	Central Oak Ridge	
	Value	Value	Value	Total entries
	<i>58</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>141</i>

5. How often would you use the dog park?				
Once per month	Once per week	Multi times per week	Daily	Infrequently/Not at all
	Value	Value	Value	Value
	<i>28</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>18</i>
				<i>5</i>

6. Which of the following park amenities are important to you?					
Turf	Sandbox	Shade	Water fountain	Separate areas	Handi. accessible
Value	Value	Value	Total entries	Value	Total entries
21	17	75	80	52	32
Benches	Water play	Dog training/agility	Lighting	Restrooms	
Value	Value	Value	Value	Total entries	
69	54	41	38	70	272

7. A park fee might be needed, would you be willing to pay a membership fee?				
	Yes	No	I'm not sure	
	Value	Value	Value	Total entries
	64	4	23	91

8. If yes, how much would you be willing to pay?				
		\$1000 - 1	\$60 - 1	
		\$200 - 1	\$50 - 21	
		\$150 - 1	\$30 - 4	
		\$120 - 1	\$25 - 11	
		\$100 - 4	\$20 - 3	
		\$75 - 1	\$15 - 2	

9. If startup funds were needed, would you be willing to contribute?				
	Yes	Not at this time		
	Value	Value		Total entries
	45	37		82

10. If yes, check all of the following that apply.					
Financial amount		Labor (fence, etc)	Skills (market, web, etc)	Materials (gifts, fencing)	Other
	\$1,000	28	10	3	
	\$250				
3 x 100	\$300				
5 x 50	\$250				
1	\$30				
	\$25				
	\$10				
Total	\$1,865				

11. Can you recommend any individuals or companies who might contribute?					
		Petsafe	Lowes	Radio systems	YPOR (young prof.)

		Little Lake Pets	Home Depot	Oak Ridge Office Sup.	Robin Biloski
		ORPD	Marines	Vet offices	Curves
		SARG	ORAU	TK Wheeler	Pet Supplies Plus
		Y-12		The Rush	

12. What concerns do you have about opening a dog park?

	None	Maintenance	Vaccinations	Security	Parking
	Value	Value	Value	Value	Value
	34	27	33	17	7
	Pet Waste	Noise	Aggressive Dogs		
	Value	Value	Value		Total Entries
	28	1	2		149