

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

August 9, 2018 Regular Meeting

The August 9, 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, Melissa McMahan, Dan Robbins and Alan Tatum

Absent: Naomi Asher, David Kitzmiller, Ken Rueter, Brad Spears

Approval of the July 12, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Ray made a motion to approve the July 12, 2018 meeting minutes and Mark seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Board Work Plan

Bell Update:

- Activity on the site has increased substantially.
- Programs and invitations for the September 20th ribbon cutting are being designed.
- The Rec Center gymnasium has been reserved as a backup location in the event of bad weather.
- Alan requested that all Park Board members attend the 6:30 PM event.
- The attendance of the Japanese Consul General has been confirmed; he will have a place on the agenda.
- The Bell was moved from the old site to the new site this morning. Local media were present for the move.
- The final concrete pour for the cantilever structure is scheduled for 2:00 PM tomorrow. This will be followed by the filling of voids and polishing of the surface.
- The Bell will be hung on the structure approximately two weeks after the final pour.
- The precast benches and bollards have been delivered to the site. The paths will be constructed after the benches have been installed.

- The carbon fiber beams are expected by the end of August. The Parks Maintenance crew will install them.
- Alan provided an overview of a garden planning meeting held earlier in the evening at Willow Ridge Garden Center.

Rails to Trails:

- With the assistance of TDOT, the access agreement is nearing completion. Once completed, AMT is ready to begin surveying and NEPA work immediately.

Trail Development:

- Ray provided an update on development of the East Fork poplar Creek Trail. Scouts have continued trail construction along the east end. Ray has also been working on the west end of the trail in the floodplain, experimenting to see the effects of flooding on the trail construction. He has been pleased with the results, noting no significant damage from recent flooding of the creek.
- All easement agreements are in place in principal. Ray is working to finalize the easement language for one last agreement.
- Ray noted a significant number of dead ash trees that will need to be taken down. City staff will remove trees on the City-owned property; Ray will engage a tree service for the rest.

Long Range Planning:

- No report.

Promotion and Marketing/Branding:

- No report.

Community Events:

- The Rec & Parks Department will be hosting a scrapbooking event, a fall camp for the first week of fall break, and the Halloween Party in October. The department will also assist with hosting the Tennessee Recreation & Parks Association (TRPA) annual conference, which will be held in Knoxville in October.
- Dan has an upcoming talk at the Library on Greenways Oak Ridge.

Natural Asset Strategy:

- No report.

R&P Recognition Program:

- Alan requested nominations from the Board for nominees for the first annual awards.

Velodrome:

- No report.

Updates and Observations (Non Action Items):

- Dan reported eight (8) bluebird nests and three (3) swallow nests in the bluebird houses along Melton Lake Greenway.
- Dan also reported on the attempted theft of his binoculars along the trail.

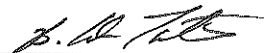
Director's Report:

- The department has been fully staffed for a few months now. New employees are performing well.

Future Agenda Items:

- Alan suggested the Board host another appreciation luncheon for department staff, at a date to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.



Alan Tatum