

Minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board Meeting

September 8, 2022 Regular Meeting

The September 8, 2022 meeting of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board was convened at 7:12 pm in the Oak Ridge Recreation Center Social Room with Chairman Jake Greear presiding.

Roll Call

Present: Mark Cantrell, Jake Greear, Kelly McCampbell, Chris Melhorn, Michelle Thornton
Absent: Alissa Jones, Melissa McMahan, Dan Robbins, Brad Spears
Also Present: Jon Hetrick, Recreation & Parks Director, staff liaison

Approval of the August 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The August 11, 2022 meeting minutes were approved with no changes

Unfinished Business

- None to report

New Business

- None to report

Board Work Plan

Oak Ridge Swimming Pool:

- The Board reviewed and discussed a draft outline of a scope of work for the Request For Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering and Design, presented by Jon Hetrick.

Capital Improvement Program:

- The Board requested an updated CIP list for the next meeting.

Greenway System:

- North Boundary Greenway
 - Citizen Doug Colclasure reported that he believes the Oak Ridge Electric Department is looking at an alternative plan for supplying power to the Horizon Center that would move power lines away from the North Boundary trail.
 - Michelle Thornton provided an update on discussions between DOE and west end homeowners regarding the removal of the fence between DOE property and private property, adjacent to the North Boundary trail.
 - Jake Greear reported that he was attempting to contact former Board member Ken Rueter about parking improvements at the bar gate North Boundary access west of Wisconsin Ave. The Board then discussed the appropriateness of the topic for Board discussion.
- Master Plan – No report

Parks & Recreation Stewardship, Maintenance and Trail Development:

- Michelle Thornton reported to the group on a Secret City Trekkers Facebook group, which has created individual patches for area trails.

Secondary Objectives:

- Community Events – The Recreation & Parks Halloween Party will be held on October 27th. The Department is seeking volunteers to assist with the event.
- Rails to Trails – Department staff are working with the engineering consultant, AMT, to identify a new Project Manager following the departure of the original PM.
- Conference Center Update – Design development is continuing.
- Melton Lake Park Greenway Bridge Support – No Report
- Bell – The City has received a request to add interpretive signage and entry enhancements at the Peace Bell Pavilion site. A presentation is planned for the October Board meeting.
- Disc Golf – Department staff have reviewed and approved a proposal from the local disc golf club to revise the course layout. The course will use a similar footprint, but will be reduced from 27 to 18 holes. This is expected to result in greater safety, better flow and more options for tee boxes and basket locations at each hole.
- Blueways – Michelle Thornton reported that there may be a meeting next month with stakeholders and the National Park Service to formalize the proposed consultation agreement.

Appearance and Citizen Comments

- Doug Colclasure reported that a Haw Ridge trail work day by CVTA is planned for September 17th. He also reported that the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is conducting a user survey on North Boundary trail use. Survey info can be found at a kiosk on the trail and online.

Updates and Observations (Non Action Items):

- None.

Director's Report:

- An offer has been made to a candidate for the new Special Projects Coordinator position; hoping to have a selection finalized soon..

Future Agenda Items:

- Triangle of Healing Proposal Presentation
- Peace Bell Pavilion Entry Enhancement Proposal Presentation
- Nominations for Park Board Achievement Awards

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.



Jake Greear
Chair