

**MINUTES  
IRVING PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2010  
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM  
6:00 P.M.**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Trivella Smith  
Larry Stipes  
Marilyn Wilson  
Chuck Kirk  
Helen Chaplin  
Marcy Brown-Marsden  
Karen Harmon

**IPAR STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chris Michalski  
Gayle Averitt  
Dwight Pinnix  
Walter Ritchie  
Becky Dietz  
Al Johnson  
Mike Griffith  
Dwight Pinnix

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mike Kwiatkowski  
Kimberly Zahorik

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Allan Meagher

**Item 1 – Call to Order**

Larry Stipes called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

**Item 2 – Presentation of Miracle League Program Sponsors**

Item postponed.

**Item 3 – Action Item**

**A. Naming of Miracle League Field**

In October of 2009 the City of Irving opened a new Adaptive Ball Field in Cottonwood Park. The field was built to the standards of the Miracle League Network and the Irving YMCA successfully hosted the first season featuring 6 teams during the fall of 2009.

Consideration had been given as to the potential of naming this new facility prior to its opening in the fall of 2009. It was determined at that time to not give the facility a specific name and the facility opened accordingly. Staff has received a request to name the actual field “Joe Taylor Field”. The request came from the participants and supporters of the long standing program (more than 10 years) that was started by Joe Taylor as Southwest Park. Mr. Taylor was also instrumental in organizing and supporting the effort to have the Miracle League Field constructed in Irving.

In that there is precedent to have fields named after persons who have provided extraordinary leadership and endless hours of volunteerism that have served to promote and sustain specific areas of play, staff recommends that the Disabled Ball Field at Cottonwood Park be named after Mr. Joe Taylor.

Chris Michalski asked for board endorsement on this item. Karen Harmon made a motion to name the field "Joe Taylor Field". Chuck Kirk 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 4 – Approval of Minutes**

Marcy Brown-Marsden made a motion to approve the minutes. Chuck Kirk 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 5 – Chairperson Report**

Larry Stipes made the board liaison appointments to the Recreation Centers. The only change from the 2009 appointments is for Marilyn Wilson to replace Matt Davis at Northwest Recreation Center.

**Item 6 – Council Action Report**

No report this month.

**Item 7 – Current Projects Update**

Gene Moulden updated the board on the current projects including the Animal Shelter dedication date of March 27<sup>th</sup>. Gene advised the board that a Community Meeting will be held at the Irving Civic Center on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. to receive input from residents on the Nichols Park improvements that are planned.

Gene answered questions from board members.

**Item 8 – Information Items**

**A. Director's Report**

Chris Michalski updated the board of the action taken at Towne Lake Park to prohibit bulk feeding. Staff has posted three signs in the park to inform citizens of the ordinance that prohibits bulk feeding of birds in the parks. After three days of the signs being posted, there was an altercation between a neighbor of Towne Lake and a person doing the bulk feeding. Chris Michalski has spoken to the party doing the feeding and explained the reasons behind the signage being placed in the park. The person involved understood and we have not had a bulk feeding incident since their conversation.

Chris Michalski updated the board on the Motocross track. The planning staff has designed a plan putting an entry way into the park to provide parking. The plans also established two tracks with fencing around the tracks. The single biggest issue on this project is liability insurance. Several meetings have been held to get the legal issues all ironed out. Chris answered questions from board members.

Chris Michalski asked the board members their opinion on meeting times for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to meet. At last month's meeting, Chris informed the board that he has taken on the duties as the Director of Libraries along with his current duties. The Library Board meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. conflicting with the Park Board meeting at 6:00 pm. Chris asked the board for their opinion of changing their meetings to 6:30 p.m. Chris stated that he is flexible and would work with the choice made. After deliberation amongst the members, a consensus was made that the Park Board would move their meeting time to 6:30 in order for the Library Board to continue their normal meeting time. Chris advised the board that he would be meeting with the Library Board on February 15<sup>th</sup> and also poll that board to see if they would consider moving their meeting dates. Chris stated that he would get back with Chair, Larry Stipes who would then get in touch with the remaining board members with the final decision of meeting dates and times.

**B. Athletic & Aquatic Activities Update**

Walter Ritchie updated the board on current events including the Miracle League registration at the YMCA. Walter answered questions from board members.

**C. Corridor Improvement Team Update**

Doug Wilson updated the board with information about the on-going programs within Corridor/Facility Maintenance.

**D. Recreation Activities Update**

Dwight Pinnix updated the board on the upcoming activities including Friday Nite Live and the Community Fest events.

Dwight announced to the board that he would be retiring at the end of March after 31 years of service.

**E. Park Maintenance Team Update**

Mike Griffith advised board members that we should be hearing the status on Tree City USA by Arbor Day which is the last Friday in April. Mike also advised that we have partnered with the Boy Scouts to plant 100 trees in celebration of their 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary at Northwest Park. The Boys Scouts will pay for half of these costs.

Mike informed members that we have also partnered with the University of Dallas to transplant approximately 65 trees on their property which would have been destroyed by construction.

**F. Administrative Activities Update**

Gayle Averitt mentioned the upcoming Boards and Commissions Banquet which will be held on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the DFW Marriott Hotel.

Gayle advised the board that with the City of Irving going to the single member voting districts, this action will not have any effect on the Boards and Commissions appointments.

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**Item 9 – Committee Reports**

Marcy Brown-Marsden mentioned the Great Back-yard bird count this Saturday at Birds Fort Trail.

**Item 10 – Future Agenda Items/Open Discussion**

Karen Harmon stated that the new Animal Shelter needs volunteers.

Larry Stipes asked for an update on the Twin Wells Golf course to be put on a future agenda.

**Item 11 – Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.