

MINUTES
IRVING PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2010
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

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

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allan Meagher

Item 1 – Chairperson Report

No report this month.

Item 2 – Election of Officers

Marcy Brown-Marsden nominated Larry Stipes for Chair and Karen Harmon nominated Marcy Brown-Marsden for Chair. Marcy declined the nomination. Helen Chaplin 2nd the motion for Larry Stipes. The motion passed unanimously.

Larry Stipes nominated Marcy Brown-Marsden for Vice-Chair. Trivella Smith 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Trivella Smith nominated Karen Harmon for Secretary. Helen Chaplin 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 3 – Approval of Minutes

Karen Harmon made a motion to approve the minutes. Chuck 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 4 – Council Action Report

No report this month.

Item 5 – Current Projects Update

Gene Moulden updated the board on the status of the current projects. Gene answered questions from board members.

Item 6 – Information Items

A. Bulk Feeding of Fowl at Towne Lake Park

Chris Michalski updated the board on discussion that was first brought to his attention in the November Park Board by Councilman Meagher regarding bulk feeding of fowl at Towne Lake Park. Staff has monitored the park at different times with no sight of bulk feeding. Staff was also asked to look into the ordinance that was recently passed in the City of Addison regarding the same subject matter. The ordinance was reviewed and in the opinion of Chris Michalski, the ordinance was very vague and could be misleading. Staff has offered to make use of a current ordinance that stipulates that the Parks and Recreation Department can, by posting a sign, prohibit a particular activity. Staff recommends posting signage at Towne Lake Park in a highly visible area advising persons that bulk feeding of birds is prohibited under section 25-1-10 of the code and ordinance. Chris answered questions from board members. Chris stressed that staff will try to educate the offenders first before calling the police unless the person becomes belligerent or hostile and refuses to cooperate.

B. Director's Report

Chris Michalski updated the board on the Moto-Cross track advising that the plan concept has been downsized. Chris has been working very diligently with David Davenport in the Risk Management department to help define the scope of insurance requirements that will be necessary not only for the City but also for the Club or Organization. Risk Management has found that the City of Austin and the City of Bridgeport have Moto-Cross accessibility meaning that they are not tracks but City owned property that persons can ride on. Staff is still working on getting the track up and running. Chris answered questions from board members.

Chris advised the board members that the first Tree Board meeting was held last week and Marcy Brown-Marsden was elected Chair.

Chris Michalski mentioned that with the West Aquatic Center being built, he has asked staff to analyze the seasonal pools in that area, being the Southwest and Northwest pools. The reason Chris has asked for this analysis is that if we have the success at West Aquatic Center as we have enjoyed at the Cimarron Aquatic Center, we anticipate the Southwest and Northwest pools will become less desirable and less attended. It may be suggested as part of the budget presentation to demolish the two seasonal pools when the West Aquatic Center opens for potential cost savings. Chris answered questions from board members.

Chris advised the board members that he has been assigned to be the Director of the Library in addition to his current duties. Chris answered questions from board members.

C. Athletic & Aquatic Activities Update

Walter Ritchie updated the board on current events including the closing of the Northlake Aquatic Center on January 18th for the observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr holiday. Walter answered questions from board members.

D. Corridor Improvement Team Update

Information in packet.

E. Recreation Activities Update

Dwight Pinnix updated the board on the upcoming activities including the annual MLK program to be held at the Irving Arts Center on January 18th. Dwight also mentioned the “On the Edge” magazine that was placed at each of the board members seat. This magazine is published by the teens from the Lively Teen Center. Dwight answered questions from board members.

F. Administrative Activities Update

Gayle Averitt mentioned the upcoming Boards and Commissions Banquet which will be held on February 11th. The board members will be receiving their invitations by mail.

Gayle advised the board that the Budget packets will come to the departments early to mid March and will require a quick turn-around. The budget is scheduled to be brought to the board for approval at the April board meeting.

Item 7 – Committee Reports

No report this month.

Item 8 – Future Agenda Items/Open Discussion

Item 9 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

