

MINUTES
IRVING PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
MONDAY JUNE 14, 2010
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
6:30 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

IPAR STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Michalski
Gayle Averitt
Mike Griffith
Walter Ritchie
Becky Dietz
Ray Cerda

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Trivella Smith

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allan Meagher

Item 1 – Call to Order

Larry Stipes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Item 2 – Approval of Minutes

Chuck Kirk made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike Kwiatkowski 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 3 – Chairperson Report

Larry Stipes advised the board that there would not be a July Park Board meeting.

Item 4 – Council Action Report

Allan Meagher mentioned that he was very pleased with the West Irving Aquatic Center.

Item 5 – Information Items

A. Director's Report

(1) Park Openings

Chris Michalski let the board members know how much he appreciated the strong support of the Parks and Recreation Advisory members at the Dog Park opening and also the West Irving Aquatic Center.

(2) Update on 2010-11 Budget

Chris Michalski presented the 2010-11 Budget to the City Manager's Office for their review but wanted to take one additional measure and that is to recommend the closure of the Sam Houston and Austin Jr. High Centers.

Chris advised the board that between the three junior high school sites, it is a quarter million dollar operation with staffing and rental costs. The Parks Department has attempted to bring in more business and was not successful. Chris mentioned taking the resources from Sam Houston and Austin and applying them to the full time Recreation Centers.

B. Athletic & Aquatic Activities Update

Walter Ritchie updated the board of the opening week-end attendance at the West Irving Aquatic Center along with the attendance numbers for the other pools.

Walter advised the board members that the athletic activities for the Spring have finished and now moving into the Summer leagues. Walter answered questions from board members.

C. Litter and Corridor Team Update

Information in packet.

D. Park Maintenance Team Update

Mike Griffith updated the board on the activities of the Park Maintenance Division.

The following items were done in support at the West Irving Aquatic Center.

- Replaced 2,100 linear feet of split rail fence at West Park
- Trimmed trees on Conflans Road median and at West Park
- Installed native grasses along new sidewalk that runs along the creek
- Clean up creek at Aquatic Center site

The following items were done as park maintenance:

- General maintenance of parks
- Large emphasize on watering of flower beds and trees
- Flower bed median maintenance

Mike Griffith advised the board members that we have secured a \$10,000 matching grant through the Texas Forest Service for the Tree Assessment of 4,000 trees on our city corridors. Upon City Council approval, the project will start in July.

Mike answered questions from board members.

E. Recreation Activities Update

Ray Cerda updated the board of the upcoming recreational activities including the July 4th parade, the One Act Play and the Juneteenth Celebration at the Jackie Townsell Bear Creek Heritage Center.

Ray mentioned the kick off of the free summer lunch program on Monday, June 7, 2010. The program is offered in cooperation with the Central Dallas Ministries, Texas Department of Health and Human Services and a federal grant funded by the Department of Agriculture. The 10-week program will provide breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Youths 18 years of age or under are eligible to participate, regardless of income. Lunch preparation and delivery will be administered by Central Dallas Ministries. The lunch menu will feature both hot and cold meals, and will include one meat, two vegetables/fruit, bread and milk. The participating Recreation Centers are Senter, Georgia Farrow, Lee, Cimarron and Northwest.

Ray stated that the summer games classes started on Monday, June 7. The participants learn various sports techniques, exercise, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Each participant is given a code of conduct agreement that must be signed in order to participate. Youth's between the ages of 12–17 will enjoy competing in a two-week, Olympic-style Summer Games competition. Events range from bowling to basketball, team sports, to one-on-one activities—there is a competition for everyone. Each recreation center will be represented by an official Summer Games team. All levels of play are welcome. The competition begins on July 26th. Ray answered questions from board members.

F. Administrative Activities Update

Gayle updated the board on the July 4th parade and also the fireworks in the Las Colinas area on the evening of July 3rd. The activities will begin at 6 p.m. and the Irving Symphony Orchestra will play from 8:45 until 9:30 p.m. with the fireworks following. Activities will include a kid zone, band, rock climbing wall, bungee jumper and concessions. Gayle answered questions from board members.

Item 6 – Committee Reports

Marcy Brown-Marsden mentioned the Cool Nights at Campion events on June 25th and July 23rd. Marcy also mentioned the Tree Board and let members know to forward any of their questions or concerns to her.

Item 7 – Future Agenda Items/Open Discussion

Item 8 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

