

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Monthly Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2017

Present: Lola Skolnik, Betty Sonneveldt, Stephane Eding, Jake Chestnutt and Lester Whitmer

Guest: Brandon Gordon

Excused: Marc Siegel and Michael Lee

Absent: Kelly Ivy

Staff: Julie McHale

Council Liaison: Mayor Emmet Jordan unable to attend due to NLC Conference

- Lola Skolnik called the meeting to order at 7:35pm
- Potential new member, Mr. Brandon Gordon, was introduced to the group and then Brandon (who prefers to be called Rick) introduced himself to the group. Mr. Gordon was welcomed and is interested in joining PRAB; Julie will inform City Clerk.
- Motion to approve February minutes made by Lola and seconded by Betty. Minutes approved and accepted 5-0.
- Lola requested to move to her report from the Council work-session held with Advisory Board Chairs in February. Lola highlighted her information items that she discussed with Council. They included:
 - Recommendation to change the number of required members for PRAB from eleven (11) to nine (9). This recommendation was approved 5-0 by the members who were present at this meeting.
 - Discussion took place and (as stated) there was no objection to this recommendation by the five members present. Lola will also send an email to the Board members who were not present at this meeting to get their vote; once received, Lola will write an official report from PRAB to Council making this recommendation.
 - If this recommendation is approved by Council, it needs to be changed in the City Code, Chapter 12, Section 12-7 Membership
 - If this recommendation is approved by Council, it also needs to be changed in the City Policies and Procedures of Greenbelt Advisory Boards and Committees Handbook
 - Review of the current description of duties/responsibilities for PRAB in Chapter 12 was read allowed to members present. A brief discussion took place and all members agreed that it is still an accurate and comprehensive description for the role of PRAB as of today's date.
 - Lola stated that if there is something that a PRAB member is interested in doing for/with the community, the board member should bring it to the meeting for discussion. If the majority is interested in the idea, it can be brought to Council.
 - The request of a Sports Coordinator staff position was mentioned to Council.
 - It is the Board's request to have a Sports Coordinator staff position in the Recreation Department to oversee the youth sports organizations in Greenbelt.
 - Julie stated that at this time, with the brand new City Manager and the assessment of the Recreation Master Plan just beginning, not much was changing in the FY 2018

Recreation Budget. Julie also stated that at this time, aging infrastructure and succession planning for the Department are the current priority.

- Lola still requested that staff try and get this Sports Coordinator position ‘on the table’ for Council to see/hear.
 - Lola requested to Council that the revision of the Buddy Attick Lake Park Master Plan be reviewed and revised by Public Works staff, Richard Fink.
 - Lola asked that Council review the status of the Sustainable Land Care Policy. A brief discussion of the history of the DRAFT document(s) to the new members on the Board.
 - Lola also stated to Council that PRAB and the general public would like to know the status of the Dam Project – what is going on now? For the future? What is the plan for this project?
- Next on the agenda, was the review of the new Basic Certification application THE GEMZ, Inc. The Board looked at the application but tabled it to the next meeting; they would like the Director of THE GEMZ, Inc. to attend the April meeting so they can review with her. Julie will contact her.
 - Greenbelt Soccer Alliance (GSA) Recognition Group Application was also reviewed. The Board is happy with the group’s Greenbelt involvement; however, they asked the Grant Review Panel to confirm the amount of funding being requested by GSA from the City. PRAB’s understands that it should be \$3,000 as stated in GSA’s narrative (not \$5,500 as is written on the application form). Jake will take this information to the Grant Review Panel meetings.
 - Recreation Department Updates
 - Julie provided updates on the following:
 - Ongoing Spring and Summer Camp Registration
 - Underwater Egg Hunt –pre-registration required
 - Annual Egg Hunt
 - Celebration of Spring
 - Springhill Lake Recreation Center Spring Skating event
 - Results from the Marketing and Communications Audit by LMD Agency. Staff has taken a few of their recommendations and proposed funding in FY2018 Budget.
 - City Manager presenting her FY2018 Budget
 - Meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by Julie McHale

Approved 8-0