

**PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
June 15, 2011**

Present:

Board members: Lolo Skolnik, Paul Sabol, Les Whitmer, Michael Lee, Marc Siegel, Betty Sonneveld, Ken Blue

Council liaison: Ms. Leta Mach

Staff liaison: Julie McHale

Meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by Lola Skolnik

Introductions with the new member of PRAB

Michael Lee, resident for 12 years, single, two small children out of state, interested in becoming active in the community, a member of GAFC

Leta gave analysis of the 2012 Budget -

Vacancy of the Asst. Director of Programs and also the PW position; taking money to do analysis of the entire City Government's organizational structure; \$101,000 to upgrade two playgrounds; tennis court lights and asphaltting; SHP alley lighting

Discussion on the topic of the FY2012 Budget:

Lola asked about combining the Parks department with the Recreation Department – like it is done in most other places
Leta Mach stated that may be done in the organizational study;

Kelly stated that what Joe does is not in Recreation but is more Planning and talked about other alternatives the City should consider; he also asked why Council wouldn't let the full-time professional staff decide how to organize their Department

Leta said that the outside organization should be able to pick this up and there will be work-sessions to discuss this

More dialogue took place as to why does the City have to go outside to do the analysis instead of allowing staff to do the job of this;

Marc said take this \$50,000 and use it for something constructive (like repairing roads) instead of spending it on the organizational structure

Lola stated that an outsider has unbiased opinions as opposed to someone inside who will be territorial

Betty asked whether or not they would talk to the individuals in the departments or just read the job descriptions

Ken motioned to approve May 18 minutes and Paul Sabol seconded after new member, Michael Lee questioned the meaning behind such strong language with 'council not enforcing the 2/3 rule' – this language was changed and then the May minutes were approved unanimously

Discussion on smoking policy for the Roosevelt Center – Marc and Betty Sonneveld – the COPAR states that you cannot smoke within 30 foot of a recreational activity in the park – a recreational activity includes an 'organize activities' -

Julie read CRAB's recommendation

Betty read the current smoking policy in COPAR

Betty said the Council should keep the Roosevelt Center separate from the other parks in the City because it is 'different than a typical park'

Betty feels that smoking should be prohibited because of all the family events that take place

Ken said that there should be a different policy for the Center than they are for more parks

New Deal is smoke free outside but Marc said that he has seen lots of smoking on the outside of New Deal Cafe

Marc feels the City should take a stand as a whole and instead of piecing the ban on smoking, just make the entire City *Smoke Free*

Lola requested a vote:

Les – no position

Paul – No Smoking

Michael – If Council wants to write a regulation for the Roosevelt Center for non-smoking then PRAB will support that

Kelly – There will need to be a designated spot for smoking

Marc – No smoking at all as a stand; Code Enforcement should do the enforcing

Betty- no smoking in the center but come up with a designated spot for smoking with designated receptacles; Betty stated that if PRAB supports the no smoking policy "It needs to be enforced"

Ken- same as Betty

Betty suggested we just adopt the CRAB Recommendation

Discussion took place on 'where the designated smoking area should be'; perhaps the Step Club picnic table should be the place and a deal could possibly be made with the Step Club to be able to do this

A consensus was reached and the motion was made: "Make Roosevelt Center a Smoke free park – and also a designate an area to smoke"; 8-yes and 0-opposed this motion

Discussion took place about whether or not the Greenbelt Soccer Alliance (GSA) will meet the 2/3 residents – PRAB stays with the opinion that lets see what happens in the Fall 2011

Michael Lee – asked whether surrounding regions have soccer programs; and if so why don't they (GSA) use one of the other programs 'outside of the City'.

Lola suggested a tiered fee structure –Resident pays a lower fee than a Non-Resident-

Discussion took place on the history of why Greenbelt Soccer Alliance came 'to be' and why Council referred this to PRAB- Ms. Mach said they referred this to PRAB because they wanted a stand -

Motion is: "PRAB recommends that there is a two week difference in registration between resident and then non resident and then a 20% difference in the fee between Resident and Non-Resident"

Motion passed 8-0

Discussion on the new application for Recognition Group status–

-Application will be tabled for the September meeting

-Barbara Simon will be asked to come to the meeting in September

-PRAB was unclear of the mission of the organization

Interim Report to Council from Greenbelt Middle School Task Force (GMSTF).

Ken Blue/Leta Mach – The presentation of this report will be on June 20 at the Council Meeting and

July 13 a work-session will be held with Council on the Greenbelt Middle School at CC

Ken gives his general overview of the GMSTF Interim Report and passed the hard copy of the report around the table

Under new business –

Betty asked if Marc got his answer on the trees and cleanup on the lake;

Question was brought up whether or not the lake was cleaned or not;

Marc stated that 100 trees don't seem like a lot of trees around the lake;

Marc confirmed that they definitely came around the lake with the mulching truck to clean up the down trees

Lola talked about the weeds throughout the City and asked if it was because of the pesticides policy; Lola also stated that as citizens, PRAB needs to call Public Works about the weeds so they are aware

Lola reminded everyone that we will not meet in July and/or August unless there is an emergency

Lola adjourned meeting at 9:05pm

Respectfully submitted by: Julie McHale
