

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
Monthly Meeting Minutes – December 16th, 2009

Present: Lola Skolnik, Paul Sabol, Rachel McMullin, Marc Siegel, Jay Shah, John Winfrey, Ken Blue, Chris Husker, and Betty Sonneveldt
Staff: Joe McNeal, Assistant Director Facilities
Absent: Melisa Hines-Rodriquez
Council: Konrad Herling, Council Member
Guest: Bill Orleans

- Lola opened with a summary of Council actions on the markers for the Lake Park.
 - ✓ Council voted unanimously for the markers.
 - ✓ John saw the video of the meeting and said that the police and other organizations were in favor of the markers.
 - ✓ Laura Kessler from the Public Safety Advisory Board presented to Council
- Konrad Herling gave his report
 - ✓ There are to be 10 markers around the lake.
 - ✓ The markers are needed to let rescue people know where you are.
 - ✓ If you do not have a cell phone, someone can assist with the call to rescue workers.
 - ✓ The cost of the markers is \$45 per unit.
 - ✓ People ignore signs, so the markers are needed.
 - ✓ The markers will be 12 inches above the ground.
 - ✓ Both Lola and Betty referenced the Lake Park Master Plan as prohibiting any man-made structures around the lake.
- Konrad's report was interrupted for an introduction of new PRAB member, Ken Blue.
- November minutes were approved 8-0. Motion was made by Paul Sabol and seconded by Rachel McMullin.
- Konrad passed out a draft of questions and from PRAB to Council.
 - ✓ PRAB members reviewed the handout.
 - ✓ Betty read questions to Konrad from the September, October, and November minutes as reference for Konrad's communication.
 - ✓ It is decided that Betty will send Konrad an email with PRAB's reviewed version of the draft. Betty asks if referring to and using the questions from the minutes is appropriate and PRAB agrees.
- Contribution Group Application Process/Orientation
 - ✓ Joe McNeal stated that he doesn't think it should be a requirement to attend training meetings.
 - ✓ Joe also stated that Council needs to review the new form unless the form does not have substantive changes that require Council's approval.
 - ✓ Joe will talk to Hank and the City to determine if Council has to approve the new form.

- ✓ Lola stated it would be interesting to see if the new form yields better information.
- ✓ PRAB agrees that orientation is needed.
- ✓ Marc asked if all contribution groups need to meet – Joe responded that if the forms are standardized then orientation needs to be standardized.
- ✓ MARC wants the same orientation for all groups, both sports and arts groups.
- ✓ John Winfrey stated that if we are going to a standardized process then all groups must be involved. He also stated that before the City gives money it should be assured that an organization knows how to fiscally manage it.
- ✓ The original intent of the changes was to help the organizational process.
- ✓ Lola said there would be no problem with the arts organizations having a separate orientation from PRAB.
- ✓ Joe stated that he thought the whole orientation was just to get the application correct.
- ✓ Rachel stated that if leadership cannot fill out the application, then flags should be raised and that the application process was also designed to help strengthen leadership and helping groups prepare to achieve non-profit status.
- ✓ Lola stated that groups need help with how to recruit and train new volunteers and new leadership, how to fund, and learning that fundraising is an expectation.
- ✓ Joe stated that getting the form filled out correctly is the first step, and that there is a need to clarify what constitutes fundraising.
- ✓ Betty stated that the sub-committee agreed that the applications would not be filled out correctly without orientation.
- ✓ Marc stated that PRAB has not held volunteers to the same standards as City employees.
- ✓ Lola stated again that the process of reviewing applications as illustrated that some of us as taxpayers and citizens want more accountability for organizations.
- ✓ Marc suggested that Council should have a work session with the groups before budgets get to Council.
- ✓ Lola said that she has always seen PRAB as working to give City Council accurate application submissions.
- ✓ Betty stated that the whole idea of a revised application and an orientation was to make it easier for PRAB to review and recommend.
- ✓ **Lola calls for a motion – Paul moves that Contribution Groups meet with staff members of the Recreation Department for the purpose of orientation for the application process. Marc seconds. Motion carries 9-0.**
- ✓ Lola will write a report to Council about PRAB's question for Council about PRAB's role in the application process.
- ✓ Marc suggests that PRAB have a work session with Council.
- Department Transition Update
 - ✓ Joe reported on the Braden Field tennis court update project. Courts 1-4 will get resurfacing and new lighting. The old 30 year old lighting will be maintained on courts 5-8.

- ✓ Proposals went out to 4 courts and all 8 courts, resurface all courts and do fence work.
- ✓ The new lights are IDA approved. Marc asked if Lakeside homeowners had been informed of the new lighting.
- ✓ Lola stated that the new outdoor sports lighting is very controlled.
- ✓ Julie McHale and Joe McNeal are acting co-directors until the position is filled.
- ✓ Joe stated the position should be advertized by March and the position filled for July 1, 2010. Both Joe and Julie will apply.
- ✓ The bathrooms at the Lake Park are open and are on a timer.
- ✓ John Winfrey asked Joe about the Recreation Department needing volunteers for New Year's Eve. Joe stated that the event would continue to be a City function, but that perhaps expenses were trying to be cut by recruiting more volunteers.
- ✓ Joe let PRAB know about a new facility in Annapolis, Truxtun Park.
- Betty moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30pm. Everyone seconded. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 20th, 2010.