

**Park and Recreation Advisory Board  
Monthly Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2009**

Present: Lola Skolnik, Paul Sabol, Rachel McMullin, Marc Siegal, Kelly Ivy, Jay Shah, Betty Sonneveldt, John Winfrey, and Ginny Zanner, AAB member  
Staff: Hank Irving, Director of Recreation, Nicole DeWald, Arts Supervisor, and Joe McNeal, Assistant Director of Recreation Facilities and Operations  
Excused: Chris Husker, and Jacob (Boomer) Fletcher, student representative  
Absent: Rick Ransom and Melissa Hines-Rodriguez  
Council: Konrad, Herling, Council Member

- Konrad Herling reported no updates from Council, and he said that he would remain the Council representative to PRAB
- October 21<sup>st</sup> minutes approved 7-0, Motion was made by Paul Sabol and seconded by Rachel McMullin
- Review of report #09-3, Trail Markers – It was brought up afterwards that this was a police request to the Safety Advisory Committee.
  - ✓ This was not how the proposal was presented to PRAB
  - ✓ Lola stated that her feelings about the markers remained the same
  - ✓ PRAB decided not to change its report to Council
- Hank announced his retirement on December 31st after 38 years with the City
  - ✓ Hank introduced Joe McNeal as the new Recreation Department representative to PRAB
  - ✓ Joe has been with the City for over 20 years.
  - ✓ Hank said there would be a search for the new Director of Recreation and that a PRAB member would be on the panel for selection with the City Manager.
  - ✓ Hank volunteered that there would be a celebration of his years in Greenbelt and that information would be coming as to where and when.
- Review of Contribution Group Budget Application – discussion included;
  - ✓ Betty stated that she was done with the sub-committee, and that if the City had a full-time paid employee who had specific ideas of how the form should look and read, that a sub-committee was not necessary. The sub-committee had met on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup> and created a merged version from Nicole’s version, the sub-committee version and Lola’s version with comments. Nicole had submitted another version with a comment sheet after receiving the sub-committee application. Betty stated that if a new application was to be used for the next application process, a version must be chosen that evening and that Nicole’s version should be chosen as she had specific requirements.
  - ✓ Paul stated again that the application form needed a complete redo.
  - ✓ Marc suggested that PRAB use the sub-committee form and AAB use Nicole’s version.

- ✓ Marc also asked again, “What does Council want and need from PRAB”, and asked why PRAB goes through the application process if Council approves all of the requests.
- ✓ Konrad responded that Council uses the forms for greater information about the groups and to determine what kind of service the group performs and how can it be measured. Konrad also said that pertaining to the matter of an organization being chaired by a Greenbelt resident, Council would look at the total make-up of the board. Konrad said that Council would discuss it.
- ✓ Rachel again stated that it was necessary to bring the groups in for mandatory training in January.
- ✓ Lola stated that Nicole’s version of the application had an excellent section asking for information on a group’s board members. PRAB members agreed with her.
- ✓ Lola also stated that, as previously discussed, it was a new day for PRAB and PRAB members, as citizens of Greenbelt, and that PRAB is very interested in what groups do and have done with the City’s contribution.
- ✓ It was again stated that Arts groups get year round mentoring from Nicole. Lola asked Hank how much support groups get from Recreation Department staff. Hank replied that the support requested was minimal and that most groups do not get help from the Recreation Department.
- ✓ Hank stated that he thinks Council will approve new forms if changes are not substansive.
- ✓ PRAB decided to move on with Nicole’s version with a few tweaks. Rachel commented that she would like the narrative moved to the front or the back, but Nicole stated she preferred the page stay in the order it was currently in her version. All PRAB members agreed to use Nicole’s version.
- Lola moved the meeting on to the question of orientations.
  - ✓ PRAB would recommend the required orientation with a group officer required to attend. Kelly mentioned that the Labor Day Festival committee booth meeting for anyone wanting a booth and everyone showed up.
  - ✓ Lola sees the orientation as a Recreation Department function, and Hank sees it as a PRAB function.
  - ✓ It was discussed to have a Recreation Department representative and a PRAB representative present at training.
  - ✓ Lola suggested that discussion be continued at the December meeting and that PRAB members should think about who needs to be at the orientation meeting.
- **Questions for Konrad to take to Council:**
  - ✓ **What does Council expect the make-up of a Contribution Group’s board to be – referring to the number of Greenbelt residents?**
  - ✓ **What does Council think about the proposal that if a group does not attend the mandatory orientation and training meeting it cannot apply for contribution funds for that fiscal year?**

- ✓ **What does Council want from PRAB when reviewing applications? Would Council welcome PRAB's comments on how well the groups have handled their finances, City contribution, fund raising, membership, etc.?**
- Paul moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm. Everyone seconded. The next meeting is Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Minutes submitted by:  
Betty Sonneveldt