

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2014

Therese Longe, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at 851 S. Eton.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Bordman, Ross Kaplan, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens, Bill Wiebrecht and Scott Cusimano, Student Representative

MEMBERS/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Alex Cross, Student Representative

ADMINISTRATION: Lauren Wood, Director of DPS, Carrie Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager and Connie Folk, Recreation Coordinator

GUESTS: Jeff Baker, Larry Bertollini, Dan Beyer, Carol Chupka, Budd Hardeew Brook, Madeline DeCurtis, Bill Dow, Jan Gross, Don Jendritz, Alice Jendritz, Sharon Johnson, Todd MacIntosh, Barbara Malewicz, L.X. Mitchell, Dave Palmeri, Leslie Pielack, Roger Tillson, James Voorheis and Stephen Woodfin

It was moved by Bill Wiebrecht, seconded by Art Stevens that the minutes of the July 1, 2014 regular meeting be approved.

Yeas – 7 (Pat Bordman, Ross Kaplan, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens and Bill Wiebrecht)

Nays – 0

It was moved by Bill Wiebrecht, seconded by Pat Bordman that the minutes of the July 29, 2014 special meeting be approved.

Yeas – 7 (Pat Bordman, Ross Kaplan, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens and Bill Wiebrecht)

Nays – 0

It was moved by Bill Wiebrecht, seconded by John Meehan that the minutes of the August 5, 2014 special meeting be approved.

Yeas – 7 (Pat Bordman, Ross Kaplan, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens and Bill Wiebrecht)

Nays – 0

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It was moved by Bill Wiebrecht, seconded by Art Stevens to move the Communication/Discussion item #2 Birmingham Historical Museum & Park to item #7 for Open to the Public for Items Not On the Agenda.

Yeas – 7 (Pat Bordman, Ross Kaplan, Therese Longe, John Meehan, Ryan Ross, Art Stevens and Bill Wiebrecht)

Nays – 0

**Agenda Item #1 –Citywide Park Projects and Priority Discussions (*verbal*)
No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.**

Lauren stated that this evening the Parks and Recreation Board should have a discussion on priorities of projects for the various parks to be discussed at the joint City Commission meeting on September 15, 2014.

Therese opened the discussion to the Parks and Recreation Board and stated to the audience of the recent park visits that Parks and Recreation Board made at Linn Smith Park, Linden Park, Rouge River Trail Corridor, St. James Park, Crestview Park, Poppleton Park, Manor Park and Adams (Roeper) Park.

Pat suggested if the meeting could be opened up to the public before the Parks Board discusses the matter.

The meeting was opened up for public discussion.

Roger Tillson stated that he is adjacent to Kenning Park and has worked with Birmingham Little League on developing a variety of reconfiguration of the baseball diamonds at Kenning Park. Roger stated that he is concerned about the ball diamond that has been moved near the cemetery and the swim club in the proposed Kenning Park Master Plan.

Roger is concerned about the added parking that would occur on the neighboring streets surrounding Kenning Park.

Roger stated that baseball fields would be a higher priority than the other amenities that are proposed in the Kenning Park Master Plan.

Carol Chupka stated that she is also concerned about the added parking on the neighboring streets because of the proposed moving of the ball diamond near the corner of Henley Court and Clover Hill Park Cemetery.

Bill Dow stated that Adams (Roeper) Park is in need of some improvements. Bill stated he has spoken to the facility manager of Roeper School and the facility manager agrees with Bill that the playing field needs to be re-graded; the full basketball court needs to be sealed and striped. Bill also stated that the basketball back board needs to be replaced and basketball nettings need to be replaced.

Bill Dow also stated that trees could be planted around the perimeter of Adams Park. Bill stated that the Birmingham Estates that is adjacent to Adams Park would partner with the City to assist with these improvements.

Stephen Woodfin reiterated about the parking situation with the proposed moving of the ball diamond to the corner near Henley Court and Clover Hill Park Cemetery. Stephen stated that the diamonds should remain status quo.

Public discussion continued about the Kenning Park Master Plan and concerns of the relocation of the baseball diamond to the corner of Kenning Park located near Henley Court and Clover Hill Park Cemetery was stated several times.

Therese asked the individuals in attendance tonight if anyone attended the Kenning Park Master Plan meetings. Therese stated that the city administration followed the city charter on noticing the public about the Kenning Park Master Plan. Notice was given to the Homeowner's Presidents; the notice was posted on the City of Birmingham's website, and publicly noticed in the Observer Eccentric.

Therese stated that the Torry Community Association sanctioned the proposed Kenning Park Master Plan.

Therese stated that the City of Birmingham has several park master plans but currently there is no current funding for these park master plans.

Dave Palmeri from the Birmingham Little League stated that he has been involved with several Kenning Park Master Plans since 2003. Dave stated that he has gone through two master plans and five redesigns. Dave stated that the Birmingham Little League is ready to contribute and donate a significant amount of money which will remain silent at this particular time.

Dave stated it was not the idea of the Birmingham Little League to move the baseball diamond near Henley Court and Clover Hill Park Cemetery.

Bill Wiebrecht stated that the residents concerned about the parking issues on Melton and surrounding streets should contact the Birmingham Police Dept. about permit parking.

Bill stated that comments heard this evening regarding the Kenning Park Master Plan as it relates to the proposed relocation of the current baseball diamonds might affect the proposed Kenning Park Master Plan. No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #1 – Joint meeting with City Commission on September 15, 2014 at 7:30 pm in the DPS Conference Room *(verbal)*

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #2 – Birmingham Historical Museum & Park Item was moved to Item # 7, Open to the public for items not on the agenda.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #3 – Kenning Park

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #4a – Quarton Lake shoreline vegetation plan

Carrie stated that the departments has been working with Native Connections in preparing as assessment and management plan to address the invasive species as well as the native species along the shorelines and park areas of Quarton Lake.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #4b – Quarton Lake Management Plan

Lauren stated that the City Commission approved the chemical treatment of the lily pads at Quarton Lake.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #5a – Golf Course Financials

Pat asked questions about the golf course financials as it relates to salaries and wages. Lauren stated that there was a pay out of an employee retiring.

Lauren stated she would verify with finance.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #5b – Golf Course Report

Pat asked why the resident memberships are down from previous years. Lauren stated that she would direct the question to Jacky Brito the golf course manager.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #6a - Correspondences from Mr. Terry Gates

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #6b – Correspondences from Ms. Pat Bordman

Pat stated that she is concerned that residents are aware of the parks near their residence but that the residents are unaware of the other City of Birmingham parks and their amenities.

Pat stated the City of Birmingham should have a separate Facebook page for the City of Birmingham Parks. Pat also suggested that in the Quarterly the Birmingham Parks should be highlighted. Pat stated a photo contest could occur to show off the City of Birmingham Parks.

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #6c – Correspondences from Mr. Charles Forbes

No action was required by the Parks & Recreation Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No items presented.

NEW BUSINESS

No items presented.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #2 – Birmingham Historical Museum & Park

Leslie Pielack, Director of the Birmingham Historical Museum and Park and wanted to introduce herself and to share the Birmingham Historical Museum & Park Strategic Plan for 2013-2014 with the Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board.

Therese asked city administration if an invasive audit could take place at the Birmingham Historical Museum and Park be included in the invasive audit that is occurring at Quarton Lake.

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Paul Reagan distributed a letter to the Parks and Recreation Board in regards to dogs allowed in City of Birmingham Parks in particular Barnum Park. Paul stated that dogs are running off-leash in the playing fields at Barnum Park in the morning.

Therese stated the City of Commission approved the Birmingham Parks Rules and Regulations in April, 2012.

Therese read the Birmingham Parks and Rules and Regulations as it relates to dogs being allowed in City of Birmingham parks.

Therese stated that on the new park signage it says, "Dogs allowed on leash".

Therese asked Paul if the police department was contacted when the dogs were seen in the Barnum Park and when the dog owner's had violated the parks and recreation rules and regulations.

Paul stated that the police department was not contacted.

Therese stated that the next meeting will be held on September 9, 2014 at 6:30 pm at DPS.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator

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