

**State of Texas** §  
**County of Tarrant** §  
**City of Bedford** §

**The Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Bedford met in a regular session at the Old Bedford School Meeting Room on October 13, 2010, with the following members in attendance:**

1. Alan Batjer	(Present)	Council Liaison -	
2. Joy Henderson	(Absent)	Jim Griffin	(Present)
3. Jeannette Cook	(Present)		
4. Douglas Allbach	(Absent)	City Manager Designee -	
5. Cathy Schneider	(Present)	Leigh Morgan	(Present)
6. Lisa McMillan	(Present)		
7. Rochelle Ross	(Present)	Others Present -	
8. F. Dewey Tennant	(Present)	Mirenda McQuagge-Walden	
9. Linda Flemming	(Present)	John Fain, Consultant	
10. Charles Higginbotham	(Absent)		

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Jeannette Cook at 6:30 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 1. Consider approval of the following Parks and Recreation Board minutes:**
  - a) September 2, 2010 regular meeting**

The minutes of the September 2, 2010 regular meeting were reviewed by the Board. There being no corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- 2. Discuss and review progress of the Parks Master Plan.**

Consultant John Fain reviewed maps he provided of the current parks and trails in the City and the trail linkages to other Cities surrounding Bedford. The maps show Bedford divided into three sub-areas: North, South and East. Currently the highest priority area is seen as the North sector, as it included Bedford Boys Ranch (BBR) which is the focus of renovation planning. At the BBR the Board agreed that the first priority was the lake. The nature of improvement to the lake should be left general in nature to provide more flexibility (i.e. pond improvement, fishing pier). The Board discussed and set its 10 priorities for the North sector, including lake dredging, creek improvement, trails, lake overlook/interpretive area, disk golf, fishing pier, playgrounds, dog park, and sport/playfields.

For the South sector, priorities included trails, park acquisition, spray grounds, sand volleyball, picnic areas, playgrounds, creek improvements, open space and tennis courts. For the East

sector, included were trails, creek improvements, land acquisition, sports/playfields and playgrounds.

Mr. Fain would take the comments from the Board and move forward with the draft plan.

**3. Discuss proposed Aquatics and Recreation fees.**

City Staff provided an overview of the recommended fee changes for the 2011 Aquatic and Recreation Fee schedule. A motion was made by Dewey Tennant, seconded by Linda Flemming, to approve the fee schedule as provided and recommended by Staff and attached to the minutes for reference. Motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**4. Discuss Park Donation Fund.**

Councilman Griffin addressed the Board regarding his proposal for a joint Parks and Library Donation fee. Mr. Griffin has proposed to City Council that residents be offered the opportunity to voluntarily donate \$0.50 per month on their water bills for the Library. However, current City billing software will not allow multiple \$0.50 fees, so the offer to citizens would have to be for a \$1.00 per month donation that would be split for Parks and Library Funds. Those citizens who had recently signed up to re-start their parks donation fee, would be contacted and asked to sign up again for the joint \$1.00 donation.

Board members voiced some concerns that they may lose some current subscribers, but also felt that there might be more penetration into the community since the joint fund will be actively marketed to Library patrons. Everyone agreed that both groups need to get more aggressive in their outreach in the community, and should look at handing out sign-up forms at City events, Splash, etc. There was concern that there wasn't an easy online sign up form for this program, as many people pay their bills on line now, and with the current form it requires an Account Number that many don't know off hand. It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the joint donation fee program and to have Councilman Griffin continue the process through City Council.

**5. Discuss individual Park and Recreation Committee Reports:**

- a.) Bedford Trails – It was noted that the torn up area was not yet fixed.
- b.) Boys Ranch – Jeannette Cook – Looks good.
- c.) Brook Hollow – Alan Batjer – Okay.
- d.) Carousel – Cathy Schneider – Good.
- e.) Central – Jeannette Cook – Needs to be mowed.
- f.) Meadowpark – Staff noted awning ordered.
- g.) Monterrey – Dewey Tennant – Bushes have been trimmed; limbs/leaves need to be raked.
- h.) Stormie Jones – Linda Flemming – Sand volleyball area has leaves/grass growing in it.

**6. Staff updates on recreation programs.**

- a) **Preparation for Halloween fest Saturday, October 30**

Leigh Morgan provided the following report:

The Halloween fest is Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>; still seeking volunteers for games, arts, crafts and candy; work time from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, with a 5:15 pm volunteer show-up time for instructions and pizza beforehand.

**NEXT MEETING**

**7. The next scheduled regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2010**

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be held on Thursday, November 11, 2010 to accommodate a joint meeting with the City Council regarding the Parks Master Plan. A motion was made by Lisa McMillan, seconded by Cathy Schneider to change the meeting date as noted above. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no additional business to come before the Board, Lisa McMillan made a motion for adjournment of the meeting, seconded by Rochelle Ross. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Jeannette Cook, Chairperson  
City of Bedford, Parks & Recreation Board