

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 March 3, 2011, with the following members in attendance:

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Charles Higginbotham at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. Consider approval of the following Parks and Recreation Board minutes:**
 - a) February 3, 2011 regular meeting**

The Board considered the minutes of the February 3, 2011 regular meeting. There being no corrections, a motion was made by Bucky Geer, seconded by Lisa McMillan, to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- 2. Discuss the Dog Park.**

The Board discussed what step needed to be taken to move forward with the dog park idea. Leigh Morgan suggested that, although City Council is supportive of the Dog Park idea in general, the Board needs to develop a business plan, with specific detail regarding proposed location, costs and funding, in order to take the next step toward approval on this project. It was noted that funding is going to be an issue and that the Board should look at ways to seek sponsorships, donations, and other fundraising programs.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Update on balance of Park Donation fund.

As of the 1st quarter of the fiscal year (October –December 2010), \$2,424 in park donation fees had been collected. There has been not action yet on the combined Park and Library voluntary donation fee that was proposed by Jim Griffin. It was noted that under that plan, residents would agree to a monthly \$1 fee added to their water bill, and 50 cents each would go to Parks and the Library. There was no known timetable regarding the combined fee proposal.

4. Discuss City rules for soliciting donations from local business.

The Board discussed soliciting donations and sponsorships as a way to raise money for the Dog Park. Leigh Morgan reported that the City does not have a specific policy for this, but the Parks Board will have to develop a plan similar to what the Friends of the Library did in soliciting Library donations. Leigh will request a copy of the Library's donation guidelines for the Board to review. Once a donation/sponsorship plan is developed, it will have to be approved by City Council.

5. Discuss individual Park assignments:

- a.) Bedford Trails –Charles– Good; work done on signs and they look good.
- b.) Boys Ranch – Bucky – Noted that the park needs new trash cans with lids to keep trash from blowing out (staff noted that they had been ordered); Alan noted a big problem with leaves from the park blowing into the adjacent neighborhood.
- c.) Brook Hollow – Alan – Looks good.
- d.) Carousel – Cathy – There is a big pile of mulch on playground that needs to be spread out; the landscaping blocks around the entry sign have been moved around.
- e.) Central – Looks good.
- f.) Meadowpark – No report.
- g.) Monterrey – Dewey- A bench was ripped out of the ground and a light is broken in the center of the park.
- h.) Stormie Jones – Linda – Nothing to report; staff noted that the new restroom was being started.
- i.) Bedford Trails West – Lisa – There is a twisted bench at monkey bars that looks bad.

6. Staff updates on recreation programs.

The following report was provided by Leigh Morgan:

- Spring Break Day Camp will be this month.
- The Family Camp Out will be held on March 11th at the Boys Ranch.
- The recreation department is gearing up and hiring for summer swim programs, Splash, and summer camps.
- The Beautification Commission's annual Clean-Up day is on Saturday, March 26th and the Crud Cruiser for household hazardous waste will also be on hand at Meadowpark that same day.

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Lisa McMillan asked the Board if there was an interest in once again working to clean up a park on that day, and suggested clean up of Bedford Trails West and the Bedford Trail area adjacent to that park. It was the consensus of the Board to again participate in the clean-up day. Ms. McMillan will pick up trash bags, gloves and other supplies from the check-in station at Meadowpark and everyone will meet at 8 am on March 26th in front of Spring Garden Elementary School.

NEXT MEETING

- 7. The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be held on Thursday, April 7, 2011.**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business to come before the Board, Lisa McMillan, made a motion for adjournment of the meeting, seconded by Cathy Schneider. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

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