



MINUTES OF MEETING
LANCASTER PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD



Lancaster Recreation Center (Banquet Hall – Heritage Room)
1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Lancaster, TX 75134
Monday, February 21, 2011
6:30 pm

Board Members/Alternate Present:

Abe Cooper
LaShonjia Harris
Spencer Hervey
Coy Poitier
Cecelia Rutherford
Mary Sykes
Willene Watson

Staff & Guest Present:

Sean Johnson, Director
Vernon Pellum, Recreation Superintendent
Jodi Griggs, Park Superintendent
Cynthia D. Williams, Board Secretary

Mark Divita, Airport Manager

Board Members Absent:

Darwin Isham

Call to Order

Ms. Watson, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:48 pm. A quorum was present.

Agenda Item #2 Consider Approval of Minutes (January 31, 2011)

Ms. Watson opened the floor for discussion of the January 31, 2011 minutes. There was no discussion or comments.

Ms. Watson opened the floor for motions of approval of the January 31, 2011 Minutes. Mrs. Sykes moved to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Hervey seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 Smokler Property Presentations: Mark Divita, Airport Manager

Mr. Divita gave a brief presentation on the Smokler property. The Smokler's were ranchers. The family donated the flood plain area around Ten Mile Creek upon the City purchasing property to extend the runway. The property is a very heavily wooded area. This property will not see a heavy amount of public use.

He reported that the runway protection zone shifted south. The City had to acquire the flight restriction zone acquiring in order to extend the runway and be within FAA guidelines. As described in the contract agreement executed on April 29, 2010 section 2.2, the buyer agrees to permit David Smokler and his wife Rosemary, to name the area dedicated for park land...within 1 year following the closing date. The Smokler's advised staff via email (1/28/11) that they did not desire a ceremony for the park naming.

Mr. Hervey stated that City Council put an ordinance in place regarding the naming of dedicated parkland be "Park Board" approved and they recommended Council approval prior to approving naming. Mr. Hervey also stated that the ordinance states that a committee be formed, research performed, study, and background checks on how the name was selected. Mr. Hervey also inquired if the name "Smokler Moo Meadows" was requested in writing. Mr. Divita answered in the affirmative. In addition, he noted that in the Contract distributed to the Board, Exhibit B has no signature. Mrs. Sykes gave a personal historical recollection of the Smokler's settling in Lancaster and where they moved here from. Mr. Divita will follow-up on comments and questions raised.

No further questions/discussion

Agenda Item #4 Consider Approval of Naming of Parkland "Smokler Moo Meadows," Located at 2623 Van Road, Lancaster, TX 75146

Ms. Watson opened the floor for discussion of the approval of naming of the Smokler Property. There was no discussion or comments.

Ms. Watson opened the floor for motions. Mrs. Sykes moved to accept the naming of the Smokler property to "Smokler Moo Meadows." Mr. Poitier seconded motion.

Mr. Hervey opposed. The majority ruled.

Agenda Item #5 Briefing: Youth Advisory Council Summit (YAC) Trip to Austin, TX (February 25 – 26, 2011) (Vernon Pellum, Recreation Superintendent)

On February 25, 2011, four members of the Lancaster Youth Advisory Council will travel to Austin to attend the Youth Summit. The members will be chaperoned by Chanita Carson, Recreation Leader for the City of Lancaster, and one parent, Mrs. Tamika Whitfield (Mother of Dominique Whitfield a YAC member). The group will depart from the Lancaster Recreation Center at 5pm on Thursday, February 24, 2011. The group will register at the Summit Conference at 8am; afterwards, check into the Ramada Inn & Suites Central, Austin (located at 919 E. Koenig Lane, Austin, TX 78751, 512-454-1144). The YAC members will participate in the Summit and gather valuable information to assist the Lancaster members in

developing the committee and serving the community and the youth of Lancaster. The members will depart Austin on Saturday at 11am and arrive in Dallas at 1:30 pm. Lancaster High School has agreed that the students that are attending will have an excused absence for Friday, February 25, 2011. Each attendee will receive \$18 for three meals on Friday and \$6 for one meal on Saturday. The distribution of permission slips and/or transportation waivers will take place this week to each parent of the attending YAC members.

Agenda Item #6 Update on Spring Break Camp (March 14 – 19, 2011) (Vernon Pellum, Recreation Superintendent)

Mr. Pellum reported that this year, we would charge \$45.00 to our current after school participants and \$75.00 for the other participants. The camp will include field trips, snacks, and activities. We hope to get 40 – 60 kids in the Camp this year. The time for the Camp will be 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

This year we will offer early pick up and drop off for an additional \$15.00 fee per child. Early pickup will be from 7:30 am – 9:00 am and drop off will be from 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm.

Agenda Item #7 Update: Programming and Hours of Operation of Bear Creek Nature Preserve (Jodi Griggs, Parks Superintendent)

Mrs. Griggs reported that currently the Park is open from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Tuesday – Saturday. Staff opens and closes the gate at these times. The Naturalist trailer is no longer their. Staff is working to get markers placed throughout the Park.

Staff would like to propose that the gate stay open 24/7. Staff feels we are not letting people use the Park to its fullest potential.

There were further questions/discussions.

Agenda Item #8 Provide Current Standards of Care (Sean Johnson, Director)

Mr. Johnson reported that Staff must receive approval of the Standards of Care from the Board and then adopted by City Council once a year. He instructed the Board to take their distributed copy home and review. We will get feedback at a future meeting.

Agenda Item #9 Subcommittee Update: Partnership/Sponsorships

Ms. Harris reported. She would like Staff to check City policy and procedure regarding scholarships and sponsorships. She has already completed some research. She has some corporations that are interested. She will follow-up with Mr. Johnson on the City Policy/Procedures on integrating with corporations. Her focus would first go to making sure that all the parks

receive the same care and treatment.

The members of the subcommittee include Mrs. Rutherford, Ms. Watson, and Ms. Harris (Chairperson). They will communicate via email and bring all formal updates to the Board.

Agenda Item #10 Subcommittee Update: Lancaster Sports Association and Council

Mr. Hervey reported that the subcommittee met last week. The subcommittee includes, Mr. Isham, Mr. Hervey, Brandon Harrison (Recreation Supervisor), and Mr. Pellum. This was a very good meeting.

They discussed the parameters of forming such a subcommittee. The name of the subcommittee is The Lancaster Sports Council. The subcommittee will write the Bylaws. The Council will include sports such as basketball, baseball, adult softball, volleyball, football, and soccer. Each sport will have a commissioner and they will represent that sport on the council. They will assist staff in the planning for their perspective sports. The council approves new sports or associations moving forward. This subcommittee will concern it selves with recreation. They already have a set date of the next meeting, March 17, 2011. We have several individuals identified to participate on the council referees. They will develop a Mission Statement and a timeline to give the council direction over the next 4 to 6 months.

Agenda Item #11 Set Agenda for Next Meeting

- Final on PTA Sports (Update)
 - Is it possible for Mr. Sanders to sponsor some of the Lancaster kids?
- Discuss/Consider Renewal of Standards of Care
- Update: Programming and Hours of Operation of Bear Creek Nature Preserve
- Subcommittee Update: Partnership/Sponsorships
- Subcommittee Update: The Lancaster Sports Council

Agenda Item #12 Adjournments

Mr. Hervey moved to adjourn. Ms. Harris seconded motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

Cynthia D. Williams

Cynthia D. Williams, Administrative Secretary

APPROVED:

Willene Watson

Willene Watson, Chairperson (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board)