

CITY OF BEECH GROVE
MINUTES – PARK BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 8TH, 2013

The regular scheduled meeting of the Park Board was called to order at 6:33 p.m., by Beth Berg, Board President.

Roll Call Board Members present: Beth Berg, Joe Prindle, Bruce Bye, Mike Pence, Cindy Montgomery, Tom Hannan – Director, Parks Department. Excused – Rick Skirvin.

Guests John Gibson, Bill Simmons, Richard Jackson and Ralph Matlock

Minutes The minutes of the July meeting were approved as typed, motion-Bruce, second-Cindy, all aye, none opposed.

Claims There were no new claims to review.

Director's Report Fitness – 4 renewed 3-month passes - \$160.00, year-to-date \$2,500.00

Combo – year-to-date \$160.00

Group Exercise – 2 renewed 3-month passes - \$80.00, 6 daily passes - \$30.00, year-to-date \$1,315.00

Senior – 8 renewed 3-month passes - \$320.00, year-to-date \$1,750.00

Hornet Park Room Rentals – June - \$1,708.75, year-to-date \$10,752.50

Shelters – 21 @ \$65.00 each - \$1,365.00, year-to-date \$10,725.00

Dog Park – June - \$205.00, year-to-date \$3,480.00

Tom reported we currently have no major issues at the park and they are in the maintenance phase of mowing and trimming.

The new budget is presently in the works but has not changed for the Parks Department. He should be able to hire extra part-time labor next year to help maintain the new areas on Main Street.

Revenues for the Community Center are about the same as last year and the dog park continues to be profitable.

Comments The meeting was opened for our guests to voice their concerns regarding Beech Grove High School using the Hornet Park Community Center aerobics room for a daily 90 minute class with the Park Director and Board members responses.

*Joe – Do you all work out at the fitness center now? All respond yes.

*Beth – Does anyone have questions? Has anyone been present while a class was in session? Bill – Yes, I was. They stayed in the aerobics room while I

worked out and there were no problems.

*John – Everyone is worried that they are going to keep coming over and if they are going to take over the facility. Tom – They cannot take over the facility, it isn't fiscally possible. The Parks will always be in charge of the building.

*Richard – You act like you don't know why the kids are coming over because you weren't in the meeting or something but it sounds like to me that next month the football players could use the weight rooms and you'd just say well I didn't know this either and now they are going to use the weight rooms and yet you say that they can't do that because of the rules. Joe – Well, he was talking about them taking over the building. Richard - There should be a rule in place that says they can't come in here and yet you don't know why they are here. Tom – I am trying to be as honest as I can be. I actually don't know why they are here and we probably should have been in a meeting but we weren't and sometimes that happens in a small community.

*Richard – I'm saying that next month, can they bring in the football players and the next month something else? Tom – No.

*John – Well, maybe you guys would say it was a good idea again, like Mike. I don't understand why Mike thinks it's a good idea for them to be here. Mike – Personally, I would rather them come over here and use what ever facilities they can here than have to pay my tax payer money and build another room addition over there at the high school. If you can workout here then why build something else? It's not bothering you.

*John – Yes. It's not bothering you because you don't even use the facility. Mike – I haven't heard anybody say it's bothering them. John - This time last week they told us we couldn't go down there. Tom – That was going around because they thought there might be some security issues and there are none.

*John – Very few people know this is going on other than the people that workout here and I don't know why you are on the Park Board if you don't care about this stuff. Tom – My first question would be is it affecting you guys in a negative way? Joe – The first thing I ask is if it will affect the public and if it did, I'd back away. Beth – If it is interfering with your use, then we would definitely want to know.

*Ralph – I guess what we are all afraid of is this the tip of the iceberg? Is it going to get bigger and bigger and if this is a fiscal problem for you guys to run the weight room? Is it a money losing venture that you would be glad to replace? Tom – Well, we wouldn't be glad to replace it but it has never been a money maker. Beth – Park services are not provided as a money maker for a community, it's an amenity for the community.

*Beth – Earlier this year we talked with the superintendent regarding the possibility of using meeting rooms at the Community Center that are underutilized for preschool. Currently we are waiting for the schools to do an analysis to see if our building will even fit their needs. Tom – Those things are a couple of years away. Beth – This is in the future and they are not asking to take over the entire building.

*Mike – Would this schedule work better for you guys if it was a certain time everyday instead of all these varied times? John – If they stay in that other room, it would be doable. But, what I'm saying is, I'm just like him, I don't see this staying this way. If they can come in here this easy, they are going to come in even easier the next time. Tom – Well, this has already happened. There is a schedule already in place and I am going to try to make things work. But, we need to talk to the superintendent and find out what their plans are for next semester. We will do some research to find out what happened and what's going to happen in the future. Beth – The timing was off and a little more notice would have been better. Joe – If it's going to interfere with the public, we'll say something; we'll do something about it. We're not going to sit here and let them overtake it. Tom – If anyone has any issues, please just let us know.

The guests thank the Board for their time. There is further discussion regarding receipt of a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the City as an additional insured to cover the safety issues that might arise while the class walks back and forth from the school and uses the room downstairs since our current agreement doesn't cover this topic. Beth will schedule a meeting to discuss these issues with the superintendent and report back to the Park Board. Joe is available to attend if needed.

Unfinished
Business

Greenscape Commission Report: Beth shared that Mr. Kaufman from the High School will be attending the next Commission meeting on Monday, August 19th, to work out details for planting trees on Arbor Day with the FFA students.

The inspection of the Ash trees is pretty well complete with no significant problems being found. They have found a few trees they will be keeping an eye on, one at the Hilltop in Sarah T. Bolton Park and one north of the Dog Park. Tom would like them to have a tree by the baseball diamond looked at. The Greenscape Commission will have Dave Miller inspect that tree as well.

The next Greenscape Commission meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m., on Monday, August 19th, 2013, at the Hornet Park Community Center.

Review of Parks Board Policies and Procedures: Joe has been able to review some of the ordinances that are in Dan McMillan's office but would like to research this further and discuss his findings at the next Board meeting.

2015-2019 Parks Master Plan – Proposal for Services: The Board discussed the option of deciding on the 2015-2019 Parks Master Plan Proposal or tabling the matter until the Board members have had a chance to study it further. Funding for the proposal is also a concern. Motion-Cindy to table this until they have all had a chance to review it further, second-Bruce, all aye, none opposed.

New
Business

Beth reported that when room rental fees are waived, an organization will be instructed to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the City as an additional insured. Tom asked if we can forego the liability insurance if we charge a nominal fee. Beth will ask the Clerk Treasurer about that.

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On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor is requesting to change the time for the next picnic-in-the-park from 3-6:00 p.m., to 5-7:00 p.m. Motion-Cindy to accept the change of time from the Mayor on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce including a waiver of fees, second-Bruce, all aye, none opposed. M.A.D.D., has requested a waiver of fees for continued usage of the meeting room at the Community Center. They will provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the City as an additional insured. Motion-Joe approve the request from M.A.D.D., for continued room usage with a waiver of fees providing they submit a Certificate of Insurance, second-Cindy, all aye, none opposed.

Mrs. Geordana Davis has requested a complete refund of her banquet room rental fees for her September 7, 2013, event. Due to scheduling conflicts, the Community Center was unable to provide her with an alternate date. Motion is made to approve refunding 75% of Mrs. Davis' money since it clearly states in her contract 25% is non-refundable. Motion-Bruce to approve refunding 75% of Mrs. Davis' room rental fees, second-Cindy, all aye, none opposed.

A request from All Points Media to hang banners on the dog park fence advertising for the Humane Society has been denied because it is against the City's ordinances.

The next Parks Board meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Monday, September 9th, 2013 at the Hornet Park Community Center.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50 p.m., motion-Joe, second-Cindy, all aye, none opposed.

Secretary _____ Approved _____