

Norman Board of Parks Commissioners
March 5, 2015

The Norman Board of Parks Commissioners of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in the Council Chambers on the 5th day of March, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at 201 West Gray Street, 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

ITEM 1, being:

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Farley and Commissioners Brigham, Brockhaus, Chappel, Hoover, London, Perry and Salmond

Absent: Commissioner Wright

City Officials

Present: Jud Foster, Director of Parks and Recreation

ITEM 2, being:

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2015 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Salmond made the motion and Commissioner Hoover seconded to approve the minutes. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Farley and Commissioners Brigham, Brockhaus, Chappel, Hoover, London, Perry and Salmond

NAY: None

ITEM 3, being:

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Hoover made the motion and Commissioner Perry seconded to approve the agenda. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Farley and Commissioners Brigham, Brockhaus, Chappel, Hoover, London, Perry and Salmond

NAY: None

ITEM 4, being:

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT FROM NORMAN OPTIMIST CLUB

Russ Lowry, President of the Norman Optimist Club presented to the board. He reported the organization has undergone some personnel changes and are working to improve their credibility. They have been working with Vernon McKown, President of the Norman Youth Soccer Association and using his guidance to make improvements. The Club created a seven member Baseball Committee in addition to creating a three member Financial Board. Mr. Lowry stated the tackle football program had seen a slight decline this fall and is currently played at Norman North and Alcott. Flag football is being played at Reaves. The Optimist Club is currently doing renovations and are making about \$15,000 of improvements to the baseball fields. They have moved their Spring League to the Fall. He stated they will be hosting more tournaments and they have seen a change to players wanting to play with their buddies and just doing tournaments versus league play.

Commissioner Farley asked if they had an AED at the field. Mr. Lowry stated no and asked if it was a requirement. Commissioner London commended them on their new Financial Board. Commissioner Salmond asked if they have investigated additional sponsorships. Mr. Lowry stated they are working on sponsorships and grants.

A written report including financial information was provided to the board prior to the meeting.

The board acknowledged the report.

ITEM 5, being:

PRESENTATION OF ACTIVITIES FROM WESTWOOD GOLF COURSE

Rick Parish Head Golf Professional at Westwood Golf Course talked about the current golf memberships and participation at the course. They are working on improving the customer visit. He reported the Thursday Night Men's League will begin March 26. The group plays for 12 weeks and has 16 additional events. They continue with Ladies Play Days and the Birthday Club. The Couples Tournament continues to be popular on the last Sunday of the month. Men's and Ladies Clinics will be held beginning in May. Mr. Parish stated he was going to coach a Westwood Golf Team of players ages 12 to 18. The group will be playing at several courses throughout Norman and South Oklahoma City. Westwood Golf Course will host a First Tee Program again this year. They will be hosting the South Central Junior PGA Tour. They are updating the bathrooms and are building a tournament pavilion. Rounds are running about the same as they were last year.

In closing Mr. Parish stated the staff works hard and Ralph and his crew do a great job to prepare the course for play. He thanked Jud and the Parks and Recreation Administrative Staff for all their help.

Ralph Cagigal reported on the maintenance activities at the Golf Course. He is starting his 32nd year at the course. The course looks good and they have had a relatively mild winter for the greens. Mr. Cagigal presented a slide show on the course operations. He also complimented Mike Winkler for his continued inventions. This year Mike created a roller

device and was able to create their own trash containers thereby saving in maintenance fees and he modified an airifier to create a sod plug device to facilitate plugging the greens. Mike also managed a crew to replace the roof at the cart barn. He thanked Rick and his staff for the work they do.

The board acknowledged the report.

ITEM 6, being:

**CONSIDERATION OF PARKLAND DEDICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
VINTAGE CREEK ADDITION**

Vintage Creek Addition is located in a part of Section 7 Township 9 North, Range 2 West of the Indian Meridian and is located north of Tecumseh Road between Porter Avenue and 12th Avenue Northwest. The Vintage Creek Addition is generally located across Tecumseh Road to the north of the Highland Village, Tecumseh Meadows, Greenleaf Trails and Trailwoods Additions and south of the Little River, as it flows across Section 7.

Little River Addition is on a tract of land that will ultimately encompass approximately 82.4 acres, with a total of 185 lots. At this density, the addition will generate a parkland dedication requirement of 1.2118 acres.

The developer would like to pursue a private park decision, and to that effect has proposed several acres of open space as part of the plat for this addition to over-match the 2.4236 acres required if a private park decision is made. According to the attached letter, the developer will provide a trail system and associated recreation facilities constructed in the open areas. Although a majority of the approximately 25 acres of open space shown is in the Floodplain, this plat does also provide a key segment of the Legacy Trail system in the open space that flows through the addition. It has long been planned that the eastern loop of Legacy Trail extend from the Ruby Grant area (Franklin Road at I-35) to the east across both I-35 and Highway 77 towards this area, along the Little River region, before turning back to the south and going through the Greenleaf Trails and Trailwoods additions south of Tecumseh Road (as platted) and heading back to the middle of town. The Legacy Trail segment in Vintage Creek is shown as the dark line on the plat (see drawing).

This trail segment set aside in the areas immediately adjacent to the housing almost accommodates the private park requirement by itself. The developer also plans to place recreational equipment, such as soccer goals and benches in the large area on the north end of the plat, where there are over 20 acres of flat floodplain land. This solution would be more desirable than accepting a 1.21 acre public park site in the development, due to the limited size of such a park. This decision would also make sense when looking at the potential land use of the rest of this section of town which is not expected to yield much more park land dedication.

According to the Norman 2025 Development Plan, about two-thirds of the land in Section 7, where this addition lies, is targeted as Little River Floodplain, Moore-Norman Technology Center or very low residential development. Only the area shown in this plat, the neighboring Little River Trails Addition and one other part to the west of this plat are shown as suitable for medium density residential development. Based on the potential land use of the area, the above-mentioned plan to construct the Legacy Trail system in the area, and the additional open space being proposed, Staff is in agreement with the request and recommends a private park decision or the Vintage Creek Addition.

Board members expressed concern regarding the open areas being open to the public. Sean Rieger, attorney for the developer stated the areas would be open to the public. They will also develop a large flat area for open play space to the North with access from an empty lot in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Brigham made the motion and Commissioner Perry seconded to recommend accepting a private park decision for the Vintage Creek Addition. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Farley and Commissioners Brigham, Brockhaus, Chappel, Hoover, London, Perry and Salmond

NAY: None

ITEM 7, being:

**PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED RULES CHANGES FOR 2015 YOUTH
BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL**

Jeff Hill, Recreation Superintendent reported on proposed changes to this year's Youth Baseball and Softball program. He reported the Rules Committee had met and recommends allowing participants to register by teams and also by individuals. It was also recommended that we limit the roster size to allow places for players to play. An informational meeting was held with about 85 coaches in attendance. The coaches requested to increase the roster up to 12 players. The coaches were informed we could allow 12 but there would still be a possibility that we would add additional players to their rosters. It is also being recommended to change the participation rule for 2015 which states that a player must play every other inning, instead of playing 2 innings.

Commissioner Hoover made the motion and Commissioner Perry seconded to accept the proposed changes. The vote was taken with the following results.

YEAH: Chairman Farley and Commissioners Brigham, Brockhaus, Chappel, Hoover, London, Perry and Salmond

NAY: None

ITEM 8, being

MISCELLANEOUS

Jud Foster stated the new Sports Coordinator is Billy (BJ) Brewer. He brings experience not only in the Baseball/Softball field, but in Special Events. We are excited for him to join our staff.

Jud Foster reported to the board that Bill Ulch, Park Superintendent was retiring. He has been with the City for 29 ½ years.

Jud Foster reported that weather has moved the opening of Legacy Park to possibly sometime in April.

Commissioner London stated she had contacted Jud after the last meeting and requested if the decision to accept land from a Homeowners Association had been done in the past and what kind of precedent this was setting. Mr. Foster stated it had not been done and this was breaking new ground for the City. He stated we need to be cautious in the future about what we were willing accept and maintain. Chairman Farley stated she had assumed that there was money set aside to do the playground and staff had approved the proposal. Mr. Foster stated he mentioned that we did not have the money in the budget and we would have to put a capital project request together for council consideration. It may or may not find its way into the capital project funding. She felt the board did not have enough information and felt rushed in making the decision. The board discussed what steps could be taken in the future to prevent making a rushed decision again. Mr. Foster stated in the future, items that were not time sensitive could be tabled so further information could be obtained. Other Commissioners agreed that after leaving and thinking about the decision they might possibly have voted differently.

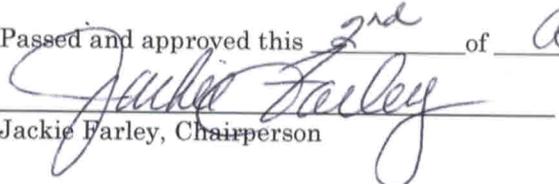
ITEM 9, being

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner London made the motion and Commissioner Perry seconded to adjourn. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Farley and Commissioners Brigham, Brockhaus, Chappel,
Hoover, London, Perry and Salmond
NAY: None

Passed and approved this 2nd of April 2015



Jackie Farley, Chairperson