
Norman Board of Parks Commissioners
July 7, 2011

The Norman Board of Parks Commissioners of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in the City Council Chambers on the 7th day of July, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Norman Public Library, and 201 West Gray Street, 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

ITEM 1, being:

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Brigham and Commissioners Brockhaus, Ferrier, Hoover, London, McGuire and Perry

Absent: Commissioners Farley and Goth

City Officials

Present: Jud Foster, Director of Parks and Recreation
Jeff Hill, Recreation Superintendent

ITEM 2, being:

APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 2ND, 2011 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

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

YEAH: Chairman Brigham and Commissioners Brockhaus, Ferrier, Hoover, London, McGuire and Perry

NAY: None

ITEM 3, being:

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

YEAH: Chairman Brigham and Commissioners Brockhaus, Ferrier, Hoover, London, McGuire and Perry

NAY: None

ITEM 4, being:

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED ART PROJECTS BY PUBLIC ARTS BOARD

Larry Walker, Chairman of the Public Arts Board spoke to the board about 2 projects they were interested in which involves working with the parks and local schools. The first project is placing a fiberglass art sculpture (possibly a duck) on exhibit for one year in the parks. The project would be similar to the bison and cow sculptures that were done in other cities. The goal is to have 20-25 of them which would be sponsored by businesses around town with different artists to paint them. The duck is being considered because there is a local artist who has done a 3 ft tall duck, and there are local people who can make the mold and reproduce the fiberglass for considerably less than major companies. The duck will be similar to the one at the Firehouse Art Center. The sponsorship cost would include the artist, materials, marketing and a minimal amount to purchase additional art. The Public Arts Board is hoping to roll the project out in the Spring of 2012.

Sara Kaplan, Public Arts Board member spoke to the board about the 2nd project which would be to paint a graffiti-style mural on the skate ramps and surrounding area at Andrew's Park. It would be a community event with local professional artists teaming up with community volunteers to paint the mural. The Public Arts Board would like to do the project this Fall. The Public Arts Board has agreed to raise the funds for the project. They feel this project will help reduce unwanted graffiti. Volunteers have already committed to monitor the mural for obscene additions and alert the Project Coordinator so any damaged areas could be touched up.

The Public Arts Board is seeking Park Board endorsement prior to continuing with the projects and would like to have representatives on committees for these projects.

Commissioner Ferrier made the motion and Commissioner London seconded to endorse the projects. The vote was taken with the following results:

YEAH: Chairman Brigham and Commissioners Brockhaus, Ferrier, Hoover, London, McGuire and Perry

NAY: None

Chairman Brigham volunteered to be on a committee. Staff will visit with the absent members and forward three names to Mr. Walker.

ITEM 5, being:

PRESENTATION OF RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Jeff Hill, Recreation Superintendent presented for the Recreation Division. There were over 2,800 Dads and Daughters who participated in the Daddy Daughter Dance this year. He hopes there will be 3,000 next year. This year we had 1,755 children playing on 146 teams in the Youth Baseball/Softball Leagues that just finished. We are currently hosting two summer camps. The camp at 12th is the traditional summer camp we have held with children taking field trips, attending movies and visiting the Westwood Pool. The camp at the Reaves Center is a no-frills camp for \$75. The children are taking some small field trips to the fire station, university departments, and they walk to the OU pool. Both camps are packed. We are also hosting several Sports Camps at the Whittier Recreation Center. Last year Westwood Pool lost \$5 for the year. For the fiscal year we just ended, we are projecting over \$30,000 profit. Recreation Revenue has seen an increase and since prices have not been raised, it means that we are bringing more people into the facilities and growing our programs.

The board acknowledged the report.

ITEM 6, being:

MISCELLANEOUS

Keith Brewster, 3921 Ripple Avenue, resident in the Cascade Addition, addressed the board regarding a proposal going to the planning commission on July 14th and eventually City Council to change a PUD adjacent to the Cascade Park to a commercial zoning designation. The board was provided conceptual drawings of the current and proposed changes. He is concerned about the change to an office park with over 200 parking spots and 4 buildings. Some concerns identified included; the additional safety risk of an office parking lot instead of homes, additional drainage from the parking lot into the park concrete flume and then to the drainage east of the park, and maintenance and esthetics which may or may not be covered by covenants of the developer. He also stated he knew of no other parks other than Russell Bates which had commercial developments adjacent to them. Mr. Brewster was presenting the information as FYI as he is aware the Park Board had no jurisdiction over commercial properties. Commissioner London suggested the Homeowners Association ask the Planning Commission to require the ownership association of the office park to build and maintain a fence between the parking lot and the park.

Jud Foster re-iterated that Park Board recommendations to the council are related to residential developments. The Park Board may forward comments on to the Planning Commission or City Council on non residential zoning issues but, by ordinance, would not take official action on this plat. Mr. Foster commented the current park size would increase by a small amount of property, being added by this development, but the proposed office park has no bearing on the size of the park. We have already obtained the property required by the residential development in the area. He also stated the flume simply carries surface water. It may be doubling as a walk-way at this time, but it is not in our plan to have it remain the only walk-way for the park. It will remain and can be used when there is no water in it. He also stated there are other parks bordered by non residential use and we

have not had any complaints or safety issues regarding the commercial developments adjacent to them.

The board commented the fireworks display was enjoyable. Mr. Foster said there were no problems or incidents and there was a huge crowd in the park that evening and we had reports the areas surrounding the park were crowded also.

ITEM 7, being:

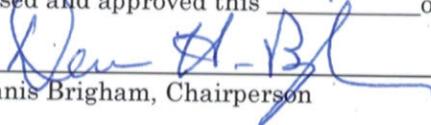
ADJOURNMENT

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

YEAH: Chairman Brigham and Commissioners Brockhaus, Ferrier, Hoover, London, McGuire and Perry

NAY: None

Passed and approved this 1st of Sept. 2011


Dennis Brigham, Chairperson