

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

**April 13, 2011**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers**

**AGENDA**

**Call to Order**

**Public Participation**

**Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes from the March 9, 2011

**Reports**

1. Public Works Report – Mike Helms
2. Recreation Program Report – Chris Engel
3. Chairperson's Report – Diana Ewy Sharp

**New Business**

1. Skate Jam Event
2. Parks Master Plan: Next Steps

**Old Business**

1. Community Garden Update
2. Franklin Park Rededication

**Information Items**

- Next Meeting – Parks Crawl on May 11 at 5:30p in Franklin Park?

**Adjournment**

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
**March 9, 2011**

The Park and Recreation Committee met at 7.00pm. Present and presiding: Diana Ewy Sharp, Chair, Peggy Couch, Kathy Peterson, Diane Mares, Joe Nolke, Dan Searles, Tim O'Toole, Clarence Munsch, Max Rieper and Jim Bernard, Jr. Also present: Members of the Environmental Committee. Staff: Bruce McNabb, Mike Helms, and Dennis J. Enslinger.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Jim moved approval of January 12, 2011 minutes. Clarence seconded and the motion carried.

**Community Gardens Proposal**

Diana summarized the memo drafted by staff outlining the location options for a community garden in Harmon Park. Four options were presented: two sites adjacent to the Skate Park (#1, #2), one site adjacent to the Santa Fe Trail area (#3), and a site next to the tennis courts along Delmar (#4). Bruce McNabb noted site #2 had the best access to water. There was some question about whether or not site #2 was actually on City owned property or on church property.

Representatives from the Environmental Committee indicated that any of the four sites would be acceptable, with a preference of site #2 because of the availability of water. The general consensus of the Park Board was that any of the sites were acceptable and the Environmental Committee should work with the Jazzfest and the Villagefest Committees to make sure each was comfortable with the site selected. Diana noted that Ann Bontrager, who was not present, called her to indicate she was not in favor of a community garden. Ann's recommendation was for the Committee to explore other options including churches & schools rather than use our limited park land. Diana shared the same sentiment with those present from the Environmental Committee.

**Diane Mares motioned to allow the Environmental Committee to select the most appropriate site and then bring a plan back to the Park and Recreation Committee for approval. Kathy seconded and the motion carried.**

**REPORTS**

**Public Works Report**

Mike Helms reported vandalism in the parks is down from last year. He also indicated there were still a few items to be completed in Franklin Park such as completion of the shelter, lighting installation, and installation of the picnic tables. Mike suggested that one of the existing signs with the layout of the park be placed on the back of the restroom facility. The Board agreed to reuse the sign. The final item noted was that he was in the process of purchasing a bike rack and sand diggers for Franklin Park.

**Recreation Program Report**

Staff noted that in Chris Engel absence he would provide a recreation summary at the April meeting.

**Community Center Committee**

Kathy reported that at the last Community Center Committee meeting, 360 Architects presented several plans showing possible site layouts of the Community Center. The Committee provided some positive feedback and asked the consultant to look at some new design options.

Joe Nolke asked if the Community Center Survey results were available. Dennis Enslinger indicated that they were and that Chris Engel would provide those to the Board by email.

### **Chairperson's Report**

Diana reported that she and several other representatives were going to meet with the YMCA and provide an update on the Community Center study. Diana asked if the Board would like to continue the Park Crawl activity. The consensus was that it was a very positive activity to see the parks and would like to have the event on May 11<sup>th</sup>. It will be 'bring your own dinner' and will start at 6 pm. Diana noted she met with Bruce & Keith regarding the status of Carroll Plaza & that the dirt was removed from the fountain there. She asked Mike Helms if the fountain was going to be operational this year and they are looking into that.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Franklin Park Dedication

Dan Searles and Diane Mares discussed the Franklin Park Dedication event. The event will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9-12 noon. The event will formally begin at 10:00 a.m. with remarks at 11:00 a.m. Dan noted there would be a number of activities such as a scavenger hunt, park alphabet challenge, etc. Hopefully, the events will be run by Girl Scout Troop 3098. Refreshments will be provided by Hy-Vee.

#### Party-in-the-Park Slogan

Dan presented several slogan ideas such as "Park & Play" and Park Recess. There was general discussion on various options. No action was taken on this item.

Diana reported city council allocated \$200,000 of the unawarded trail grant matching funds to parks. She noted that there were two possible uses for the funds, 1) construction of the Tomahawk Trail from 71<sup>st</sup> Street to Porter Park or 2) construction of an extended perimeter/ internal trail at Porter Park. There was a brief discussion of the project costs for both projects. It was noted that the engineers estimate for the Tomahawk Trail was approximately \$24,000 more than the budget of \$200,000. It was anticipated that the engineering costs could be reduced or a creative construction method might be used to help reduce costs. Diana cautioned that the budget was \$200,000 and she did not feel Council would allocate any further funds for this project.

The general consensus was to ask staff to move forward with the design of the Tomahawk Trail from Porter Park to 71<sup>st</sup> Street. Kathy Peterson made a motion to direct staff to begin design on the Tomahawk Trail. The motion was seconded by Jim Bernard and was approved. Diana indicated that Ann Bontrager, who was absent, was in favor of the perimeter/internal trail at Porter Park.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

The next meeting will be April 13, 2011.

Diana Ewy Sharp  
Chairperson

PILOT CLUB OF LENEXA REQUEST FOR USE OF  
PRAIRIE VILLAGE SKATEBOARD PARK

Pilot Club of Lenexa requests use of the Prairie Village Skateboard Park for a “Skate Jam.” The purpose of this function is to increase brain injury awareness and encourage the use of helmets when skateboarding.

A minimum of 60 helmets will be given away. Tom Loveless of Helmets in Hands will talk about his head injury as a result of a skateboarding accident. In addition, techniques will be demonstrated by a local skateboard group. The function is being promoted in partnership with the Brain Injury Association of Greater Kansas City and Daredevil Boards in Mission, Kansas.

DATE AND TIME: Saturday, June 11, 4:00 to 6:00 PM

Pilot Club of Lenexa will:

1. Provide proof of commercial general liability insurance
2. Advertise the event in local schools (in the Prairie Village area)
3. Post a sign on Mission Road to advertise the event
4. Provide bottled water for attendees

We request the following assistance from the City:

1. A tub or tank for bottled water for the event
2. A public address system with an electrical source
3. Six tables for handouts, helmets, and musical equipment

In conjunction with this event, Pilot Club of Lenexa also requests permission to sell hot dogs and/or brats and pop for fund raising. We will furnish a grill and all items necessary to prepare the food. At completion of the event, we will police the grounds to assure all trash is gathered and placed in proper receptacles.