

Minutes
Parks and Recreation Planning Board
Work Session
February 9, 2006

1. Parks and Recreation Spotlight: Drought Conditions and Water Conservation

Jim Fox, Park Services Manager, showed a video of the presentation made to City Council by the North Texas Municipal Water District. He then discussed the role of the Parks and Recreation Department in water conservation as it relates to and affects landscaping, athletic fields, and new construction projects.

2. Staff and Board Reports

a. Tom Muehlenbeck Center

Robin Reeves reported that the City Council will consider awarding the bid for the construction of the Tom Muehlenbeck Center at their meeting on Monday, February 13.

b. Cheyenne Park

Jim Fox reported that work has begun on replacing the restrooms that were destroyed by arson at Cheyenne Park and that construction should be completed in mid-March.

c. Cox Building Dedication

Dana Conklin reported that staff is working with PISD on the dedication of the Cox Building. The dedication is scheduled for Wednesday, March 31.

d. Park Development Projects

Robin Reeves updated the Board members on the proposed Veterans Memorial at Memorial Park and the status of development of Archgate Park.

e. Parks Foundation

Bill Neukranz provided a report on the January Parks Foundation meeting. He reported that the meeting consisted of discussion of the Wildflower Run scheduled for May 6, 2006 at Arbor Hills Nature Preserve and the Foundation's need for adult volunteers.

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- f. Items for Future Agendas**
There were no items for future agendas.

- i. Board Member Reports**
There were no Board member reports.

Don Wendell reminded the Board members that the March meeting will be held on March 14 instead of March 7.

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Members Present

Karen Bellessa
Susan Plonka
Bill Neukranz
Francis Ngoh
Alan Vuckovich
Mary Long

Members Absent

Nathan Barbera

Others Present

Nelson McCord
Jake Batsell

Staff Present

Don Wendell
Jim Fox
Robin Reeves
Dana Conklin
Amy Fortenberry
John Gilliam
Linda Benoit
Susie Hergenrader

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

1. Consideration of Minutes from the January 3, 2005

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2006 meeting was made by Susan Plonka, seconded by Bill Neukranz, and approved 6-0.

2. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Whether or Not a Portion of Chisholm Trail, Totaling Approximately 309 Square Feet, Should be Conveyed to Nelson M. McCord for the Purpose of Correcting an Encroachment onto Park Property Subject to Approval at a Special Election of the Voters of the City of Plano

Mr. Nelson McCord addressed the Board regarding his fence and swimming pool which encroach into the park. Mr. McCord previously addressed City Council who agreed to place the sale of the park land to him on the May election ballot. A recommendation to City Council to sell the 309 square feet to Mr. McCord was requested from the Board. Mr. McCord is paying all the fees associated with the conveyance and the placement of the sale of park land on the May ballot.

After discussion, it was determined that the criteria of Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code had been met. A motion to recommend sale of the 309 square feet of park land to Mr. McCord, subject to voter approval, was made by Bill Neukranz. The motion was seconded by Susan Plonka, and approved 6-0.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Whether or Not a Portion of Jack Carter Park Should be Used for a Fiber Optic Easement from the City of Plano to the Plano Independent School District

Robin Reeves discussed a request from PISD for a fiber optic line through Jack Carter Park to provide service to a new PISD service center. He reported that the proposed service line will run across Carlisle Elementary School property and Jack Carter Park property. Robin reported that the proposed line will be installed underground and will not disturb any park improvement or damage any existing trees. He also reported that the service line will only support the PISD service center and not any other users.

After discussion, a motion to grant the requested use of a portion of Jack Carter Park for a fiber optic easement was made by Mary Long, seconded by Francis Ngoh, and approved 6-0.

4. Discussion of Concept of Additional Cellular Equipment on Electrical Transmission Towers Next to Hike & Bike Trails

Jim Fox reported that Metro PCS has approached the City for approval to place cellular equipment on electrical transmission towers next to hike and bike trails. Jim reported that a Metro PCS representative would like to come before the Board to officially make this request.

Chairperson Bellessa asked that each Board member provide his or her thoughts on this request. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board members that the Metro PCS representative be allowed to address the Board regarding this request. Susan Plonka expressed concerns about granting permission for any additional cellular equipment placed on the ground, however, she was not opposed to additional equipment on the existing towers.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

