

## **PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY BOARD**

**APRIL 11, 2013**

The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Board met in regular session at the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Conference Room, 1611 North Stonebridge Drive, McKinney, Texas on April 11, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

Board members Present: Mike Arnold, Leslie Warren, Peter Bailey, Jay Ray, Matt McGuire, Bryan Perkins, Jackie Brewer

Board members Absent: None

Staff Present: Parks, Recreation and Open Space Director Lemuel Randolph, Senior Parks Planner Jenny Baker, Parks Development Superintendent Steve Brainerd, Recreation Superintendent Ryan Mullins, Parks Maintenance Superintendent Tim White, and Administrative Assistant Sharon Lewis.

Guests Present: Oak Hollow Golf Course Pro Mike Watson, The Courts Manager Matt Hanlin, McKinney Community Development Corporation Executive Director Cindy Schneible and Lisa Stout, 5021 Vineyard Lane, McKinney, Texas 75070.

Chairman Ray called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**13-354** Minutes of the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Board Meeting of March 12, 2013

Board members unanimously approved the motion by Board member Leslie Warren, seconded by Board member Mike Arnold, to Approved and Referred.

### **REPORTS**

**13-355** Division Reports

Mr. White stated that the public has done real well in keeping the dog park maintained.

Mr. Watson stated that the portion of the golf course irrigation that was damaged by lightning is being repaired.

Mr. Brainerd announced that the grand opening of the Gabe Nesbitt Skatepark will be Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. (A PowerPoint viewing the amenities of the skatepark was presented.) The skatepark rules will be going to City Council for their

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approval on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. He stated that bikes are restricted from using the skatepark.

Mr. Perkins expressed he was upset that bikes would not be allowed to use the skatepark.

Mr. Warren asked if it would be possible to build a bike park in the same area as the skatepark.

Mr. Randolph stated that it could be a possibility as there is an area behind the skatepark. He added that there is funding in the Bonnie Wenk Park-Phase II that could be an option to build a bike park.

Mr. Perkins asked who would be policing the skatepark.

Mr. Randolph stated that the McKinney police department would be responsible for enforcing the skatepark rules.

Mr. Perkins asked if scooters would be allowed to use the skatepark.

Mr. Randolph stated yes, scooters would be allowed to use the skatepark.

Mr. Warren asked if there was any way to fence in the skatepark to keep bikers out.

Mr. Randolph stated that it is built to be open. Plus, a fence would not keep them out.

Mr. Ray asked how many attended the Bonne Wenk Dog Park grand opening.

Mr. Brainerd stated that there were 40 cars and approximately 100 people.

Mr. Ray asked how the public information meeting went on the Al Ruschhaupt Soccer Complex lighting.

Mr. Brainerd stated the Al Ruschhaupt Soccer Complex lighting project has been put on hold as there were some objections to this project.

In regards to the recent aquatic facilities tour with the McKinney Community Development Corporation Board, Mr. Brainerd stated that they have a better understanding of the kind of facility the city is wanting to build.

Ms. Schneible stated that the more information the board gets, the more confusing it gets for them.

Mr. Hanlin stated that in spite of the weather, The Courts had at least 150 people attending their first anniversary. He said a professional tennis player came to The Courts to practice and liked it so well that he would return when in town.

Mr. Mullins stated that the Easter Eggstravaganza was affected by the weather but still had a nice turn out. He presented in PowerPoint pictures of the Bonnie Wenk Dog Park grand opening. Mr. Mullins announced the upcoming *Skating with the Stars* event at the Dr Pepper StarCenter on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, from Noon to 2 p.m.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### **13-356** Information/Discuss Skatepark Rules

Mr. Mullins and Board reviewed the skatepark rules. He said the hours would be from 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Scooters, boards and bladers are recommended. The skatepark rules will go to City Council for their approval on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. Texas Law Chapter 75 limits the liability for a governmental unit. It is recommended that users wear safety equipment. We anticipate significant use from groups all over, even from California. There are limitations as to what our police department can do. The skatepark is located on the park road where it is open and very visible. The grand opening will be Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. There will be entertainment and vendors at the grand opening. We are excited and looking forward to the grand opening. There is seating to just watch the users. Initially, there will be a heavy presence of the police department. There will be signage in the park.

Mr. Perkins stated he has made his position quite clear by not allowing bikes in the skatepark. It was his understanding that facilities would be built for maximum use but keeping bikers out is not filling that.

Mr. Brainerd explained that the surface of the bowls in the skatepark is of a material conducive to skateboards, scooters, rollerbladers and roller skaters. It isn't just concrete like the Allen skatepark. He stated that the city has been working on this facility for eight years.

Mr. Randolph stated bikes can damage the surface by digging into the surface making it difficult to repair and making it dangerous for users on skateboards, scooters, roller skates or rollerblades.

Mr. Randolph stated that the skaters were the ones approaching the city and providing input on the design of the skatepark. We have just recently been hearing from bikers about use of the skatepark.

Mrs. Brewer asked what the life expectancy is of the surface of the skatepark.

Mr. Randolph said staff would check on the life expectancy of the surface of the skatepark.

Mr. White stated that the City of Allen has a different concrete pour from McKinney's.

Board member Perkins stated that Bike Mart said they would help support maintenance of the skatepark as a sponsor.

Mr. Randolph said that a sponsor was not factored in on the skatepark. He stated that anyone can present to Council their thoughts or recommendations at the April 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS

Lisa Stout, 5021 Vineyard Lane, McKinney, Texas 75070 stated she was a teacher at the Rueben Johnson Elementary School and that she had a lot of students wanting to use the skatepark with their bicycles. She also asked when the next phase to the skatepark would be started. In her opinion, more injuries are caused by skateboards and scooters rather than bicycles.

Mr. Randolph stated that phase II would be a Bonnie Wenk Park with funding provided by the McKinney Community Development Corporation. He said he could not guarantee when the design would be completed.

Board member Perkins asked if an area for bicyclists would be constructed at the Bonnie Wenk Park.

Board member Warren asked if it would be better to have both the skatepark and bike park be close to each other.

Ms. Stout stated she didn't think it is always good to have them by each other; that it could work if they were not in the same area.

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Mr. Randolph stated that funds are not budgeted for a bike park at Nesbitt Community Park but the Bonnie Wenk Park has a budget for it; that the bike facility may be incorporated into the Wenk Park.

Board member Perkins asked what kind of facility for the bicyclists was the City looking at.

Mr. Randolph stated that the elements designed by Alpine Bike Park, LLC are the kind the City is referring to; not what the City of Allen has. (PowerPoint of elements by Alpine Bike Park was presented for the Board.)

Mr. Randolph stated that Bonnie Wenk Park-Phase II will have two soccer/lacrosse fields and practice fields.

BOARD OR COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

No comments.

ADJOURN

Chairman Ray adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

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JAY RAY  
Chairman  
LESLIE WARREN  
Vice Chairman