

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

April 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was held at Frances Avenue Park and called to order at 7:00am on Tuesday, April 13, 2021. Board Members Carolyn Marlowe, Rob Oman, Dana Suiters, Al Renedo, Justin Billings, Kai Sonnenschein, Chairman Dave Schrader, and staff liaison Kevin Adams were in attendance.

The March 9, 2021 minutes were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Meadows Park Updates & Survey Discussion (hand-out) – The architects sent a preliminary design with a survey/questions to comment ideas on what you like or dislike. Please fill these out and send to Donna by next week. The plan is to invite the architects to attend a future P & R Advisory Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Frances Avenue Park Community Garden – The Environmental Committee will be working with our Public Works department to install a community garden near the back of Frances Avenue Park. There will be two raised beds/boxes; similar to others around the City. (Q-Who maintains these? Some have become over-grown.)
- ActiveNet – Registration, POS, and Scheduling System – April 21st – The new system software will go live on April 21st, 2021. It is a good system and will replace the current one we have been using.
- Summer Martin – New Recreation Supervisor – Her main responsibility will be coordinating the Concerts at Sims Park. (Q-When will the Fitness Center have extended hours again in the evenings? (2 hours after closing) Recreation staff stays late for Frisbee, and RAC is fully staffed, except for Child Watch employees; and Child Watch is not open.)
- Meeting at Frances Avenue Park (walk around) – Everyone walked around together to observe different amenities and briefly discussed ideas on improvements they would like to see there.

1. Dog-friendly; the Advisory Board voted unanimously to propose that dog poop stations be installed and signs be posted to make Frances Avenue Park “dog-friendly” (similar to Sims Park). The Advisory Board would like City Council to consider allowing dogs in City Parks. (It has been observed that patrons bring their dogs to the parks anyway.)
2. There is barrier fence near the lift station that needs to be removed/or fixed, as it is unsightly and a tripping hazard.
3. Q-Will anyone going to the park be able to pick food out of the garden?
4. Parking area needs to be expanded near the kayak launch.
5. The new restrooms look great and it was money well spent.
6. Additional Dog Park – The Advisory Board feels there is a need to have an additional Dog Park that is more centrally located to downtown and easy to find. They all agree that a good place for one would be near the front of Frances Avenue Park; there seems to be ample room there, the project does not need to be complex or expensive. The Advisory Board voted unanimously to propose that City Council consider adding an additional Dog Park at Frances Avenue Park in future CIPs.
7. Basketball Courts/nets are in good condition.
8. Signs posted that say the Park & Gate close at sunset – but there is no gate to Frances Avenue Park.
9. The playground is in good condition. The benches are uncomfortable and more benches should be added.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Summer Camp Registration – begins April 26th (residents) and May 3rd (non-residents) – The RAC will be accepting 100 children per week for 7 weeks of Summer Camp. The cost is \$55/week for residents and \$65/week for non-residents.
- Kids to Parks Day at James E Grey Preserve – May 1st, 2021: 10am-12pm – This is a Free event for all ages. (Dave Schrader volunteered to assist with the event.)
- Lifeguard Certification Classes: April 22-24 & May 6-8, 2021 – The cost for classes is \$150.00 and there is an additional \$40 fee that must be paid to the Red Cross for the online part of the class. We have a few summer Lifeguard positions still open.

VOX POP

Fencing at Sims Park Playground – The playground should have Safety Gates put at each of the three existing entry/exits at the playground. The Advisory Board voted unanimously to propose that Safety Gates are installed/adjoined to the existing fence at the Sims Park playground.

Q-What is going on with the playground structure at Russ Park? The playground is rusty and should be removed.

Q-When is the City having another Clean-up Day?

Q-Can something be posted on Facebook regarding the Open positions to serve on the Advisory Board? (Donna will inquire with the City Clerk.)

The Teen Room has some drop-ins, some wanted to play Basketball, but we are expecting it to continue to grow.

The next meeting on April 13th will be held at RAC. Future meeting locations at City Parks will be decided at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00am.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marlowe

Carolyn Marlowe,
Secretary

CM:dch