

MINUTES
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
City of Brookings 898 Elk Drive, Brookings
June 24, 2004

Call to Order

Chair Boynton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Farmer led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Dave Gordon, April Gothard, Bill Boynton, Dori Blodgett, and Daryn Farmer.

Commissioners Absent: Tony Parrish, and Pat Sherman.

Ex Officio Commissioner: Paul Cleary.

Staff Present: City Manager Blodgett, Councilor Frances Johns Kern; Dave Lentz, Parks Foreman-Public Works, and Cathie Mahon, Secretary.

Media: Brian Bullock for *The Pilot*.

Minutes

Commissioner Dori Blodgett made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2004, meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Charles Cone, President of the Brookings-Harbor Soccer League (BHSL) submitted an 8-page report outlining the history of the league, the ages and levels of the soccer players, and the Fall schedule for the games.

He discussed the conflict between the baseball schedule end of season tournaments, overlapping into the start of the soccer schedule. He pointed out he knew at the beginning of the year that the baseball leagues had reserved the time for their tournaments, but the tournament schedule was overlapping into the week-end when soccer was to begin their season. He posed to the commissioners to resolve the problem and questioned if the tournament dates could be changed so the soccer players could start on schedule.

After some discussion, Commissioner Gordon commented on the calendar dates for both baseball and soccer, and questioned if the baseball tournament could shuffled their date and play over Labor Day. Commissioner Dori Blodgett pointed out the fields are reserved in case the Brookings-Harbor softball teams are in the play-offs; at this time, it can not be determined if there will even be a tournament. Commissioner Farmer responded he was a softball player and would entertain playing on Sunday. Commissioner Gothard responded she did not agree, that her family members who participate in softball, would not participate on a Sunday.

City Manager Blodgett commented it is evident our city needs more playing fields. He proposed a meeting for the '05 season between the leaders of each sport; Barbara Glazebrook for Adult Softball, and Mr. Cone for soccer, so conflict does not come up again. It was agreed the solution was a valid one, but it does not resolve the present problem. Dave Lentz stated there is a better than 50-50 chance there will not be a tournament, but the Tuesday through Saturday times remain reserved in case tournaments are played here.

Charles Cone discussed the process involved with preparing the sports field. He explained it takes hours plus numerous members to stripe the fields, set up the posts, and put up the net. He summarized his proposal: he would like Adult Baseball to have their playoffs September 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th. They would prepare the soccer fields on Friday, September 10th, to be ready for the teams to begin on Saturday, September 11th.

Commissioner Farmer moved, if softball teams are in the softball playoff, tournaments originally scheduled for Saturday, September 11th, be moved to Sunday, September 12th. Commissioner Gordon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Cone thanked the Commission for helping resolve the issue.

Tennis:

Jack Hawkins, tennis pro, spoke on his continued interest in building tennis courts at Stout Park. His rough estimate for the courts, dome cover, a building to house equipment and restrooms, was between \$300,000 and \$350,000. He emphasized the community must step up with raising money for the project. Hawkins stated he is available and willing to help a committee with his expertise but without community support, he would be "whistling in the dark".

Chair Boynton questioned if grants were available for tennis projects. Hawkins responded he was not familiar with any. He stated a viable solution would be if 300 people contributed \$1000 each, the goal would be met for the project.

City Manager Blodgett reported he reviewed the *Palm May Stout* deed restrictions. In the document it states "no buildings other than a Community Hall shall be built...with the exception of rest room facilities." He recommended the next step would be putting together a business plan including expenditures and maintenance of the courts.

Lentz posed the question, would it be cheaper to upgrade the current courts at Bud Cross Park. He stated the lights are good, the courts would have to be re-surfaced because they are over 10 years old, and the fence is in disrepair. Hawkins responded that was a good plan, but felt the community needed more courts, especially to train and have tournaments. He added the location (Stout Park) is a perfect location because it is so close to the schools, plus he said having a nice facility would be a tourist attraction. Chair Boynton concluded the discussion questioning if City Council would give their stamp of approval. Commissioner Farmer stated we (the commission) could approve use of Stout Park for tennis courts providing the document (Ms. Stout's deed) allows it, and assuming the funds are raised.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chetco Park: Chair Boynton reported he had guests visit the park and they were very impressed with it.

Bud Cross Park and Softball Fields:

Commissioner Gordon reported he visited the fields and found a couple areas of concern particularly the divots in the center field which need to be filled in. The stair project at the Azalea Park on Lundeen Street started this week. He stated it has been well-organized by Quincy Coons; the 15 stairs have been formed, rebar placed, and Tidewater will be providing the cement. The third concern is the weeds are really high at the Bud Cross outfield area. Lentz said he would make a note to have the area mowed.

Commissioner Gothard remarked the fields are very dry and dusty. Lentz commented he would do a quick water spray over them.

Kidtown: Commissioner Dori Blodgett reported the park simply sparkles.

Easy Manor Park: Commissioner Gothard reported she observed people using the park for picnics and barbeques.

Pool: Gothard reported it is busy this time of year.

Richard Park:

City Manager Blodgett reported the City is currently getting an appraisal for the property and possibly putting the property up for bid. It is zoned residential and could be split into 2 lots. When the value is established, the process of how to sell it will be decided.

STAFF ANOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS/FOLLOW-UP

Financial Report: No discussion.

Commissioner and Staff Comments:

Commissioner Dori Blodgett reported the Performing Arts Center will be closing due to lack of funding. A benefactor is needed to continue using the present location. At this time, it will close in December when the present lease expires.

With no further business before the Commission, Commissioner Gordon moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathie Mahon
Recording Secretary

Approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission

08/26/04 (date)