

Minutes to be approved by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING
January 26, 2012

Pursuant to the notice as required by law, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Ponca City Oklahoma convened in open session at 5:30 P.M. on January 26, 2012 in the McFadden Room, City Hall, 516 E. Grand Ave.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cox, Rathbun, Troutman and Throop.

OTHERS PRESENT: Beverly Bryant, Ponca City News; Janet Ray, Teri Pennington, and Linda Sparks, 2012 Herb Festival Board; Jim Sindelar, Director Park and Recreation Dept, Katie Goss, staff.

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Wes Young.

2. Consider and vote on the minutes of the November 17, 2011, regular meeting.

The motion was made by Riley and seconded by Wentroth to accept the minutes of the November meeting as presented. Vote was as follows: Yes - Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

3. Director's Report.

Sindelar reported the following:

The courtesy dock has been installed and handrails are on order.

Playground equipment for Redbud Park has arrived is ready to be installed.

Currently working on specifications for the Unity Gym floor.

Working on specifications for tuck-point and seal of cabins at Wentz Camp.

Sindelar requested the committees meet to review existing fees prior to the February advisory board meeting.

Public Hearings- None.

Old Business-None.

New Business

4. Consider request from Herb Festival Committee to have wine tasting as part of the Herb Festival event and take action as needed.

Janet Ray, Teri Pennington, and Linda Sparks were in attendance representing the Herb Festival Board. Ray spoke on behalf of the board and explained they felt allowing a "Wine Tasting" to be a part of this year's festival would provide another draw for people to attend the festival. Staff had provided information received from the City Attorney regarding what was required by the ABLE Commission.

Information received was as follows:

1. Wineries are permitted to offer free samples and sell their product at festivals such as the Herb Festival;
2. Logistically, the wine tasting area should be in a discrete area demarcated by barricades, tape, or rope, with signage that no one under 21 years of age may proceed past the boundary. The better policy is to have one entrance and that entrance be monitored so that no one under 21 is admitted within the interior space—so that the wine purveyors would know that anyone in the area is at least 21 years of age.

A less desirable approach is to monitor the entrance and give everyone a color coded wrist band denoting whether the recipient is under 21 or over 21.

3. The ABLE enforcement agents consider the demarcated space to not be a public place for purposes of Oklahoma's statute prohibiting consumption of intoxicating beverages in public places. Outside of the demarcated area would be considered a public place and those participating in sampling wine cannot be permitted to take open containers of wine (like glasses of wine) outside of the wine sampling area. No problem in carrying unopened wine bottles out of the wine tasting area.

Wentroth asked what kind of system the group planned to use. Ray said they will locate in the center area of the west side of the grounds. The area will be fenced and have one entrance and one exist with someone monitoring traffic in and out of the area. Sparks state information received from Oklahoma AgriTourism reports there are currently over 60 wineries in Oklahoma.

When asked how they will take reservations for wineries, Ray responded they board had not worked that out. At the present time crafters are charged 15% of their sales for booth space. Once approval for the wine tasting has been received the Herb Festival Board will address how they plan to proceed.

Because the festival utilizes the church parking lots, if the request is approved the board will need to visit with the church regarding their plans to include a wine tasting at the festival.

There being no further discussion a motion was made by Moore and seconded by Riley to recommend approval of the Herb Festival Board to hold a Wine Tasting as part of the 2012 event at Cann Garden.

Vote was as follows: Yes - Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

5. Receive Park Committee Report and take action as needed.

Young presented the report. The committee met on January 10, 2012 and discussed the following:

During December, Tom was informed by Pam Alexander, with the Humane Society, that they had received donations totaling \$10,000 for equipment for the new dog park. Tom and Jim met with the K-9 Club and told them of the donations.

It was discussed and decided that Tom and Jim would visit 2 or 3 parks to get suggestions of do's and don'ts for a park. The committee will then form a task force with the Humane Society, K-9 Club, and other citizens to proceed on plans for a park which including location, funding, and maintaining.

The committee then discussed the proposal for a pocket park at Fourth and Grand Ave., presented by Ponca City Main Street. More information regarding funding to build and maintain the park, who will be responsible for maintaining the park and receiving input from our downtown merchants regarding the park, is needed prior to the committee making a recommendation to the advisory board.

The committee didn't feel a splash park downtown made sense. Although the committee felt the overall concept is good they question some of the materials being proposed for the project. The committee feels they need to work with Main Street as a group to work through some of the concerns.

The committee does not want funding of a pocket park to take priority over funding of other park facilities.

6. Receive Recreation Committee Report and take action as needed.
Wentroth reported the committee is currently focusing on coordinating a Health and Wellness Fair to be held at Hutchins Auditorium, March 29, 2012, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The committee focus is on providing screenings for basic things such as eye care, blood sugar, blood pressure, and nutrition. Staff will work with the committee to publicize the event.
7. Receive Lake Committee Report and take action as needed.
Riley asked that the proposed 2011-2012 Lake Committee Goals be accepted by the board. Any projects would be prioritized by Park Department staff and implemented only if funding is available. Proposed goals are as follows:
 - a) Consider hosting a spring social and clean up day for all lake users. Attendance should be Staff, Park and Rec board members, and Lake Patrol. This event should be well publicized (newspaper, radio, and City TV channel) to reach as many potential lake users as possible. Possible items of discussion at the meeting prior to the clean up are a) fishing at Lake Ponca, b) elimination of dumpster, c) concession stands at the lake, and d) input and Q/A from the users.
 - b) Explore the possibility of rinse-off showers and a primitive natural water splash bubble at the Swim Beach.
 - c) Continue with plans to install a "small boat" ramp at the North end of the West Lake. This project is on hold until the new bridge and associated ground work is completed.
 - d) Work with other city departments to improve roads and parking around the lake. Primary concern is the safety of pedestrians on the west side of the lake and the excessive amount of space needed for parking.
 - e) Support the construction of the new modern bathroom facility to complement the Swim Beach and Ambuc Park.
 - f) Develop and overall strategy and educational material regarding concession stands at the Lake. This should be finalized prior to the start of the boating season.
 - g) Improve the general appearance and utilization of the Duck Ponds in Lake Ponca Park. Possible areas for consideration are lights, fountains, and a walking trail around the ponds. *It was agreed that our number one priority should be the improvements to the Duck Pond.*
 - h) Continue with the plan to install/upgrade the mooring docks at the lake.
 - i) Consider upgrades to the Sail Boat marina to enhance bank fishing. Possible ideas are the installation of railings, better walking and seating arrangements, and the possible dredging of the marina to provide deeper water to enhance the fishing.
 - j) Encourage the city to plant additional trees around the lake and in the Park area.
 - k) Evaluate the cost and feasibility of providing lights at the Swim beach.
 - l) Review the SOP for possible upgrades or needed changes.

Riley stated the number one goal of the Lake Committee is to improve the general appearance and use of the Duck Ponds since Lake Ponca Park is the first thing seen by visitors to Lake Ponca. It was the consensus of the board to accept the goals of the Lake Committee as presented.

8. Comments from chairperson or board members.
Moore asked what the cardboard regatta mentioned in the November minutes was. Board members explained what it was and there were specific guidelines for the construction of the cardboard boats.
9. Discuss February Agenda.
Committee Reports
Fees
Review capital budget requests.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

10. Citizen Comments.
None.
11. Adjourn
There being no further business a motion was made by Moore and seconded by Wentroth to adjourn the meeting of the advisory board. Vote was as follows: Yes - Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 16 DAY OF February 2012.



Wes Young, Chairman



Secretary (minutes prepared by Katie Goss)