

Minutes approved by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board.

Park and Recreation Advisory Board  
MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING  
June 24, 2009

Pursuant to 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 June 24, 2009 in the B. S. Barnes Room, City Hall, 516 E. Grand Ave.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bivins, Gregg, Kennedy, Riley, Wentroth, and Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cox, Wilson and Moore.

OTHERS PRESENT: Beverly Bryant, Ponca City News; Matt Grudowski, Travis Megee, Jessica Irons with Ponca City Alternative Sports Association; Jim Sindelar, Director Park and Recreation and Katie Goss, staff.

1. Call to Order

Kennedy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Citizen Comments

Megee, Ponca City Alternative Sports Association, reported ground work continues at the BMX track. Repairs are being made and the retaining wall has been modified. The Race for Life, Red Line Qualifier and Blood Drive went well. Ponca City exceeded the participation numbers previously seen for regionals with 432 racers. Ten states were represented at the races with families from as far away as North Carolina. A positive impact was made with reservations in our local hotels with the 181 hotel rooms rented and use of Lake Ponca Campground. Fourteen new BMX memberships were received during the races. The Blood Drive received 64 pints of blood.

July 3-6, 2009 the group will hold a championship qualifier. They expect another good weekend of racing. There will be no extra activities going on with this race. Advertising for BMX races is by word of mouth and web sites.

Representatives from Miami, Oklahoma came to Ponca City to check out the track because they will be building a BMX track in Miami.

3. Consider and vote on the minutes of the March 19, 2009 meeting.

The minutes of the March 19, 2009 meeting were presented for consideration. There being no changes a motion was made by Young and seconded by Wentroth to approve the minutes as presented. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Gregg, Kennedy, Riley, Wentroth, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

4. Comments from Chairman and/or board members.  
Young suggested everyone re-introduce themselves.

5. Directors Report

Sindelar asked the board to consider holding a tour of facilities and a mini retreat to set goals and direction of the board. Sindelar would like to stop by the pools since they are currently open. The retreat and tour could be held at different dates and times if needed.

Kennedy asked if anyone had a preference of meeting dates and times. Staff can put together some thoughts to assist with the retreat. Wentroth suggested having the retreat the regular scheduled meeting date. After discussion it was agreed the board meeting July 16, 2009 be scheduled to begin at 5:00 pm and to have a tour of some of the park facilities followed by the retreat.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

6. None.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

7. None.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

8. Receive update on Recreation Complex.

Sindelar reported contractors have been pouring footings, two approaches (one off of Waverly and one off of Grand), the stem walls for the building and the base has been laid for the parking lot. The project is currently on schedule. Sindelar reported he is going to Andover, Kansas, with the City Manager and Shane Harland of the YMCA to tour the YMCA operations there. The facility in Andover is similar to the facility we are currently constructing.

Riley asked if the facility will come under Park and Rec. Sindelar said the YMCA will manage the facility but because it is a recreation facility it will fall under Park and Rec.

9. Election of chairperson and vice-chairperson.

- a. Current chairperson – Angi Kennedy

Kennedy opened the floor for nominations for chairperson. Riley nominated Kennedy. The motion was seconded by Young. There being no other nominations Kennedy remains chairperson by acclamation.

- b. Current vice-chairperson – Wes Young

Young said he was willing to remain vice-chairperson. Motion was made by Wentroth that the nominations cease. There being no other nominations Young remains vice-chairperson by acclamation.

10. Establish committees for Lake, Parks, and Recreation.

Sindelar reviewed the committees of the Park and Recreation Board:

- (a) They are **Lake Ponca Committee** which reviews and makes recommendations regarding the policies and guidelines for Lake Ponca. Lake Ponca includes the water use, docks and lake lots.
- (b) The **Recreation Committee** addresses issues concerning sports, programming, Unity Gym, Tennis Center, AMBUC Pool and Wentz Camp & Pool.
- (c) The **Parks Committee** addresses issues concerning how the parks are to be used. This committee also includes all trails, the Lake Ponca Campground and Cann Garden.

Sindelar suggested since we have a nine member board there be three people on each committee. Robin Riley said he would like to serve on the Lake Ponca Committee and felt Al Moore would request that committee as well. Wentroth and Kennedy stated they would serve on the Recreation Committee and Young selected the Parks Committee. There will also be special ad hoc committees throughout the year. Board members were asked to think about which committee they would like to serve on and let staff know during the next month or at the retreat. The discussion regarding the committees will continue at the Board Retreat in July.

11. Discuss existing Park and Recreation Fees and assign to Ad Hoc Committee.  
The list of current fees was distributed to board members. Sindelar explained we review the fees each year and do not want to change a fee “just to change the fees”; there needs to be a reason to make the change. An Ad Hoc Committee – **Fees Committee** will be Gary Gregg, Bill Wentroth and Angi Kennedy. Riley stated the lake committee reviewed the lake permit fees for 2008-2009 and recommended the lake fees remain with no changes. We can also look at other ways to generate revenue. Although our budget does not rely upon revenue generated we are able to show the City how much revenue we generate each year in a certain area.
12. Discuss “No Smoking Policy” in City parks and assign to Park Committee for study and recommendation.  
The current City policy is smoking is not allowed in any City structure or within 25 feet of the entryway. Sindelar stated the trend throughout the U.S. today is healthful usage of facilities including outdoor areas such as city parks where children play and families gather. There is cost involved with cleanup of discarded tobacco products; however, it is the job of the Parks and Recreation Department to lead and promote health and fitness. Other communities are starting to look at tobacco usage in City parks and recreation areas. We will look at all facilities not just parks. Enforcement is a question to be addressed. Staff has gathered information from two communities in Oklahoma who currently have policies regarding smoking in City parks. Sindelar asked for a committee to study the issue and make a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Board to consider. The **Smoking Policy Committee** will be Wes Young, Robin Riley, and Kimber Bivins.
13. Discuss expanding the trail system around the lake.  
Sindelar said this has to do with the natural trail going along the fence. We have been having difficulty defining the trail and having people use the trail properly. The current natural trail runs from entrance on Hartford and Snake Road and follows the fence line all the way to Prospect. The next area would be

from Prospect to Hubbard. This would give us almost two miles of natural trail. If we go all the way to Hubbard, we could then go through Jaycee Park and follow the trail back around to Wentz. This would be a natural multi-use trail for equestrian, bicycles, and hiking. No motorized vehicles are to be on this trail. The discussion would be do we want to proceed with this and if so then have the Park Committee look at this and provide further direction.

Riley asked if this was included in the Trail Master Plan. Sindelar said that what was included in the Trail Master Plan was a 10 foot wide hard surface trail which would cross the spillway and tie back into the bridge. The City is getting ready to redo the Turkey Creek Bridge and Lake Ponca Bridge with a pedestrian side to the bridges. Project design for the two bridges is currently underway. Discussion will be continued to the Mini-Retreat.

Riley asked the status of the courtesy dock at Wind Mill Cove. Sindelar said a request has been made to reallocate the project to the 2009-2010 budget year.

Wentroth asked the representatives of the BMX if construction of a trail along the BMX track would be beneficial to the area. Megee said that use of the park has increased and the parking being used more by families. The construction of a trail in this area could be Phase I of a trail connecting Dan Moran to the Recreation Complex.

14. Discuss items for July 2009 agenda.  
Facilities tour and board retreat.  
Discuss committees further.

15. Adjourn

There being no further business the motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Gregg, Kennedy, Riley, Wentroth, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.