

Village of Wimberley Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 11, 2003, 6:30 p.m.
Wimberley City Hall, 13210 RR 12, Wimberley, Texas 78676

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Kris Cusack. Present were Board members Cusack, Fred Franz, Jan Fulkerson, Malcolm Harris, Linda Hewlett, Dell Hood, Paul Xiques, and Horace Wilson. Board member Thad Nance was excused.

2. Minutes of January 14, 2003 meeting were accepted as submitted.

3. Public Forum:

Mr. Thomas Manes, landscape architect, presented his ideas for implementation of the Cypress Creek Nature Trail, including a system for storm water runoff control and filtration. Board members discussed his suggestions and ideas for design and construction of the trail itself. Jan suggested Board members consult with Austin city officials on how they manage drainage and runoff in city parks. It was agreed the trail should follow the existing trail created by deer and people over the years, and that the trail surface must be of permeable material such as crushed granite.

Board members suggested to Mr. Manes that he submit a resume and preliminary proposal for development of the trail to City staff.

4. Park Land Dedication:

City Administrator Steve Harrison briefed the Board on the provision for dedication of park land in Section 42000 of the City Subdivision Ordinance. He noted the ordinance requires a subdivision developer to provide either land for park and recreation facilities for the subdivision residents, or a payment of money to the City in lieu of land. He and City intern Steve Cusack have been looking at the formulas several towns and cities in the area use to determine how much money should be paid if land is not dedicated, and will prepare a recommendation for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Harrison said the developers of Blue Hole want to move ahead with their commercial and residential development, and the Board needs to decide this issue fairly soon. Board members agreed it would be better for the City to acquire land now for public park and recreation use, because as land is developed there will be fewer sites available at prices the City could afford.

Board members reviewed the proposed Blue Hole development, noting that commercial activities are concentrated closest to Cypress Creek, and that the residential development looks to be rather intensive for such a small area.

The Board agreed it would be useful to have a joint workshop with Planning and Zoning Commission on park land dedication.

5. Parking Survey:

Steve Cusack reviewed his survey of existing parking spaces in and around the Village Square. He discussed parking with merchants on the Square and said most of them were more concerned with problems of traffic flow than with availability of parking space. There is also concern over dangers to pedestrian traffic in the Square. He said he has identified 500 to 600 parking spaces within one quarter mile of the Square, including the Baptist Church lot.

The Board agreed that parking outside of any park land is not its area of concern or responsibility, and that when the survey is finished it should be submitted to the Transportation Advisory Board.

6. Summer Recreation Program:

Kasey Klepfer outlined a proposed schedule for the summer recreation program. There will be a session June 9-27, a one-week break, and a second session July 7-25. The program will run five days a week, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with lunch from noon to 1:00 p.m. One full-time aide and three volunteer counselors should be enough to manage the program. He will do an inventory of equipment available at Scudder Primary School. City Administrator Steve Harrison has been meeting with school district officials on an inter-local agreement, and said there are a number of issues still to be resolved, including security at the drop-off point and what to do with children who are not picked up on time; registration fees; and publicity. He and Kasey will visit other recreation centers in the area to see how they handle such matters.

The Board agreed that if a program director is hired, that person could do detailed planning and resolve some of the issues, rather than having the Board do it or creating a special committee.

7. City Council Actions:

Council member Martha Knies said City Council has approved hiring the firm Langford Community Management Services as grant administrator for the Cypress Creek Nature Trail. The firm is available to do some work before grant funds become available, for example vetting landscape design firms.

The Board discussed how it will relate to Langford and agreed by consensus to designate a sub-committee to handle liaison with the firm. Malcolm Harris, Fred Franz, Horace Wilson, and Kris Cusack volunteered for the committee. Kris will schedule the first meeting with Langford.

Martha said Council accepted the offer of Scott Way to donate \$16,100 for the first phase of a study on a trail system for the Village. Steve Harrison suggested the Board designate a member to participate in meetings with Bosse Compton & Turner Associates, the firm that will carry out the first phase project. Malcolm Harris agreed to do so.

8. Wimberley Association for Tourism:

Kris said the Wimberley Association for Tourism is a group of businesses and individuals involved in the tourism industry around Wimberley, and several of its members are interested in acquiring Pioneer Town and the Frederick Remington museum of Ray Czichos. The Association asked to have one or more Board members at its meeting at Cristo's Restaurant on March 4th, to brief them on the Nature Trail and the hike-and-bike trail proposed by Scott Way. Kris said she will be at the meeting and asked for one or two other members to attend as well.

9. Announcements:

Horace and Thad walked the site of the old county landfill to see if it would be suitable for recreational land, but found the surface very rolling and uneven. Unless someone will donate the service of leveling it, it does not look good for Village park land now.

Linda Hewlett said Hays County Parks Administrator Richard Salmon wants to find land for a county park in the Wimberley area.