

Village of Wimberley Parks and Recreation Board
City Hall, 13210 Ranch Road 12, Wimberley
Minutes of Regular Meeting
November 16, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Board chairman Malcolm Harris. All Board members were present: Mark Bursiel, Fred Franz, Jan Fulkerson, Malcolm Harris, Dell Hood, Linda Hudson, Thad Nance, Tim Thompson, and Horace Wilson.

Minutes of Board meeting of October 19, 2005 were approved as presented by unanimous vote.

Public Comments: No comments were received.

A. Reports

1. Hill Country Recreation Association (HCRA):

Buddy Wilson, president of HCRA, distributed a letter addressed to the Board with a report of HCRA activities and a needs analysis for new and ongoing projects with projected budgets for them. He said HCRA is an all-volunteer organization focused on organized athletic and sports activities for children. He reviewed an HCRA two-phase plan to improve and expand facilities on land the association owns next to the VFW property on Ranch Road 12, and then to raise the funds for a second phase to buy adjoining land and build more and larger athletic fields and facilities. He said HCRA wants to understand how it can work more closely with the City and the Board in planning and managing recreation projects.

Board members thanked Mr. Wilson for his presentation, commended HCRA for its work, and agreed to put discussion of cooperation with HCRA on a future agenda.

2. Cypress Creek Nature Trail construction:

Horace Wilson reported the contractor, G. Creek, estimates construction should be finished by the end of November, and the City would like to schedule a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the Trail in December, even though it would not be ready for public use by then. Board members agreed by consensus they would prefer to have the formal opening ceremony coincide with a public opening, when the park is ready to be used, even if this means delaying the opening until January. Horace said a subcommittee should be formed to work on issues such as signage and selection of the furnishings for the trail. Malcolm Harris volunteered to work with Horace on this.

3. Keep Wimberley Beautiful (KWB) report on landscaping:

Martha Knies referred to the offer by KWB to contribute up to \$2,000 as an unrestricted donation for the Nature Trail, and said the Lovejoy Garden Path landscaping company offered to donate five hours of consultation service, valued at \$250, and \$750 in time for either further consultations or labor. Wendy Lovejoy of Lovejoy Garden Path

offered to sketch ideas for plantings in selected spots of the entry area, but she pointed out she cannot do a realistic plan until construction is finished and she can see the natural landscape. Board members said they want only native plants used in any landscaping at the Nature Trail. Martha Knies said KWB could work the Wendy and provide some labor for the plantings. She noted the Emily Ann Theater has stained concrete tables made were made locally. Board members thanked Martha and Wendy for their support to the Nature Trail.

B. Consider and Act: Board elections

Chairman Malcolm Harris opened the floor for nominations for Board chair. Horace Wilson nominated Jan Fulkerson. Linda Hudson seconded. No other nominations were offered. Board members approved the nomination by unanimous vote.

Chair Jan Fulkerson assumed the chair and thanked Board members for their support. She opened nominations for Vice Chair. Linda Hudson nominated Horace Wilson. Jan Fulkerson seconded. Tim Thompson moved to close the nominations and elect Horace Wilson by acclaim. Dell Hood seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Chair Fulkerson opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. Horace Wilson nominated Dell Hood, Fred Franz seconded. Malcolm Harris moved to close nominations and elect Dell by acclaim. Linda Hudson seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Board members discussed whether to name an official Parliamentarian. Tim Thompson said he would serve as unofficial Parliamentarian but did not want a formal appointment to the position. Board members accepted Tim's proposal.

C. Work Session

Development of the lower trail section of Cypress Creek Nature Trail:

Chair Jan Fulkerson said a team from Texas Trail Tamers in Austin would be at the Nature Trail on December 3 to organize and direct volunteers in clearing the trail below the entry area. She met earlier today with Steve Baker of the Trail Tamers to discuss what type of clearing and trail improvement would be done. The trail is poorly defined in some areas; by clearing a given path and leaving other areas uncleared, we can direct the public to preferred areas in the park. Horace Wilson said we need some ideas on how to mark the trail permanently, and noted there is a lot of dead juniper that should be cleared.

Board members discussed permanent signs for the park, a descriptive brochure for public use, and where to find appropriate park furniture.

Chair Fulkerson said Mr. Baker of Trail Tamers would like to help the Board by forming a committee to develop and oversee a maintenance plan for the park. Board members discussed possible committee members and what responsibilities they would take on.

Chair Fulkerson named the following people to work with Steve Baker of Trail Tamers: Horace Wilson, Malcolm Harris and Fred Franz to work on signs; Kay Wilkins, Thad Nance, and Linda Hudson to research park furniture. Other committee members could include David Baker and a representative of Keep Wimberley Beautiful.

D. Announcements and Requests for Future Agenda Items:

Chair Fulkerson said Americorps volunteers have done a lot of park and trail work in Austin, including making park furniture. She suggested the Board look into how we could use them for the Nature Trail.

Chair Fulkerson said she spoke with Precinct 3 Commissioner Will Conley about clearing trees for the Wimberley by-pass, saying she was concerned the clearing might be too drastic. Commissioner Conley marked some trees to save for a hike-and-bike trail.

Dell said the agreement with the Wimberley Birding Society should be ready for Board review by the December meeting and should be on the Agenda.

E. Adjournment: Board meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Recorded by Dell Hood.

Accepted as submitted 12/21/05
Dell Hood