

**WIMBERLEY PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2007  
WIMBERLEY CITY HALL, 12111 RANCH ROAD 12**

Board meeting called to order by Chair Jan Fulkerson at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Christine Byrne, Jan Fulkerson, Malcolm Harris, Dell Hood, Thad Nance, Horace Wilson.

1. Approval of minutes: Minutes of August 15, 2007 Board meeting approved as submitted by unanimous vote.

2. Citizen Comments: Bill Johnson thanked Board members for their work on behalf of the community.

3. Reports

a. Committee reports: Malcolm reported there are no new developments from the Mill Race Lane residents group. No more complaints about visitors to the Nature Trail have been reported.

b. Village staff: City Administrator Don Ferguson reported the public restroom at Cypress Creek Nature Trail is finished and being used by visitors to the Square, and merchants in the area are pleased. Other projects are under development at the Nature Trail: laying stones in the walkway leading down to the steps; a maintenance agreement with Leinneweber Plumbing for cleaning and servicing the restroom on a regular basis; and a rainwater collection system for the pavilion, which is being donated by a local plumber, to provide water for the water feature and irrigating the planted area around the pavilion. In addition, picnic tables will be provided by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

4. Election of officers:

Don briefed Board on discussions by City Council on changing the schedule of appointment of Board members, to coincide with the terms of Council members.

The following Board officers were elected by unanimous vote:

Chairman: Thad Nance

Vice chair: Jan Fulkerson

Secretary: Dell Hood.

Thad assumed the chair.

5. Discussion and Action:

a. Reservation Policy for Cypress Creek Nature Trail:

City Administrator Don Ferguson presented a proposed form for reservation of the pavilion at the Cypress Creek Nature Trail, and a set of rules and regulations covering its usage. Board members discussed the rules and agreed unanimously that the definition of "Resident" should be anyone whose home address is within the 78676 zip code. Malcolm moved that the Board accept the Rules and Regulations for the Cypress Creek Nature Trail pavilion and the reservation form as presented. Jan seconded and the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

b. Proposal for a pocket park along Old Kyle Road:

Don said the Rotary Club approached the City with a proposal to help fund a pocket park in the piece of

land immediately east of the old lumber yard parking lot. The Rotary Club is willing to fund some amenities at the site, such as a bike rack and a fence. Bert Ray of the Transportation Advisory Board is also interested in the project and has offered to develop a site plan.

Don said there needs to be a process allowing public review and comment on the proposal, and suggested the creation of a committee composed of two Board members, two Rotary Club members, Bert Ray, and one or two public members. After the group develops a formal proposal, the Board would discuss and comment on it and pass it to Council for final action.

Board members discussed the proposal. Malcolm noted the Wimberley Birding Society should be part of the group, because of the possibility of having a bird-watching site at the overlook.

Jan and Horace volunteered to be Board representatives to the group. Don will contact the Rotary Club and other suggested participants to set up the committee and launch the process.

6. Board reports:

a. Announcements: Jan said she is interested in developing a "Walk in the Park" program for school children, to get them into the Blue Hole park for environmental education and better contact with the natural world. She cited the book, *Last Child in the Woods*, as the inspiration for this proposal, which has been developed in other cities. She proposed March 2008 as the target date. Board members discussed the proposal and agreed unanimously that it is an excellent proposal. Thad and Christine volunteered to work with Jan on developing the project.

Thad reported the county parks advisory committee has agreed to give Dripping Springs a substantial grant to acquire part of the ranch property owned by the family of former Wimberley City Administrator Steve Harrison, for development as a park.

Don said Village staff is reviewing a final application to the county parks advisory committee for a grant of \$3.1 million for development of phases one and two of the Blue Hole master plan. The proposal will include two funding possibilities, depending on how much the several participants are willing finally to commit.

Don reported that two different television ads were recently filmed at Blue Hole: one by Texas Parks and Wildlife, and one by Valero Energy Corporation. The Village has also received a significant donation from an anonymous donor for cedar removal at Blue Hole.

b. Future meeting dates: Next Board meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2008.

c. Future agenda items: None proposed.

7. Adjournment: Board meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Recorded by Dell J. Hood

Accepted 1/16/08