

WIMBERLEY PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 16, 2006, 6:30 P.M.
CITY HALL, 13210 RR.12, WIMBERLEY, TEXAS

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board Vice President Horace Wilson.
Present: Fred Franz, Malcolm Harris, Dell Hood, Thad Nance, Tim Thompson, Horace Wilson.
Excused: Mark Bursiel, Linda Hudson. Jan Fulkerson arrived at 6:55 p.m.

2. Review of minutes of July 26, 2006 was deferred to the next meeting.

3. Public Comments:

Jesse Huth described for Board members a proposal to build a bird blind at the Wimberley Birding Society Refuge. He said the blind will help make the Refuge more attractive to local and visiting birders and will thus contribute in a beneficial way to the local economy. Horace volunteered to work with him on refining the design and said the Board will consider the proposal on its next agenda.

4. Reports

a. Keep Wimberley Beautiful: Bonnie Falah of KWB said the organization is concerned that no funds were requested for maintenance of Village parks at the last meeting of the Board. She said KWB's policy is, "We plant it, you maintain it", and asked the Board to consider asking for maintenance expenses in its budget.

b. Presentation from CAMPO on trails: Patricia Crews-Weight, Austin area director of design for TxDOT, said CAMPO had approved funding for a request by Hays County for a trails network. The proposal requires the county and local governments to provide 20% matching support, which for this grant will be \$200,000. Because there are federal funds involved, the trail must be ADA compliant. The trail system can use the highway right-of-way across private properties.

c. Cypress Creek Nature Trail: Horace reported the Village's response on deficiencies related to handicapped facilities and access on the trail has been accepted by Texas Parks & Wildlife. Only a few minor construction details remain for the contractor to fix. He is still working on trying to find records of volunteer time and materials donated to the Nature Trail to use in counting the Village's match for the TPW grant.

d. Blue Hole Stakeholders Group: Dell reported on the progress of the Stakeholders Group toward a master plan for Blue Hole. The first public presentation of the group's work so far is scheduled for September 7 at the City Hall.

e. Blue Hole activities for 2006: Council member Marilee Wood said she has heard approximately six complaints from the public about their treatment by the contractor, and two complaints about alcoholic beverages being drunk at the park. The Village needs to follow up on these issues.

B. Consider & Act

1. Recommendation to expand the season at Blue Hole:

Jan noted the Board and Council approved having Blue Hole open through Labor Day weekend. She is concerned with the amount of wear and tear to the area along the creek with the numbers of people being admitted this summer, while the area is suffering a drought and the vegetation is under extra stress. Board members discussed the issue of extending the open season and monitoring the quality of water with interim City Administrator Mark Marquez. Tim Thompson made the following motion: In consideration of the issues of water quality and the safety of the public, it is the recommendation of the Parks Board that the season for Blue Hole end on the Labor Day weekend as previously recommended by the Board. Malcolm Harris seconded the motion which was approved by 7-0.

2. Cypress Creek Nature Trail signage:

Horace presented samples of signs to be used at the Nature Trail. Board members discussed the signs, their materials and design, and location at the Trail. Board members agreed by consensus to keep the design and wording as simple as possible. Horace and Fred volunteered to work with the sign maker to develop a formal proposal for Board consideration.

C. Work Session

Cypress Creek workday: Board members agreed to defer scheduling a work day until the hot weather moderates.

D. Announcements: Fred will be out of town for the next scheduled meeting.

E. Adjournment: Board meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Recorded by Dell J. Hood

DJH
Accepted 9/20/06