

**Village of Wimberley Parks and Recreation Board**  
City Hall, 13210 Ranch Road 12, Wimberley  
Minutes of Regular Meeting  
August 17, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

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

Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 20, 2005 were approved by unanimous vote.

**Public Comment:** No public members were present.

**A. Reports**

**1. August weekend at Blue Hole :**

Assistant City Administrator Kay Wilkins said approximately 225 people came to Blue Hole over the August 6-7 weekend; there were several dozen others who did not pay for entry, either because they came only for a quick look or were children below the age of five. Many expressed appreciation for having it open and the overall attitude was very good. There was good publicity for the opening around the area.

**2. Location Agreement with Worms film at Blue Hole:**

Ms. Wilkins said the Village signed an agreement with producers of the film, *How to East Fried Worms*, for approximately two weeks of filming at Blue Hole. The Village will be paid \$9,500, which will go into the Blue Hole fund. A bait shack is the only improvement being built, and the producers will remove it and leave the site as they found it. The crew and cast, numbering approximately 40 people, are renting rooms, buying food and supplies, and otherwise making a significant contribution to the Wimberley economy.

**3. Cypress Creek Nature Trail:**

Horace Wilson gave an update on construction of the entry area to the Nature Trail. A small structure to cover and secure equipment for the water feature needs to be built; he proposed the Board get volunteers to build it, using lumber stored at the Winters House. On behalf of the entire Parks Board, Jan Fulkerson thanked Horace for the tremendous work he has done overseeing the Nature Trail project.

Kay Wilkins said the City has received a donation of \$2,000 from Keep Wimberley Beautiful (KWB) for landscaping at the Nature Trail. LCRA will donate 50 trees in 5-gallon pots for planting at the Community Center and the Nature Trail. There is a choice of several species of trees, which will be available in September or October. Board members agreed they want to use native Texas species and avoid any non-natives. They discussed forming a subcommittee to work with KWB on its landscaping

project and to oversee the selection and planting of the LCRA trees.

## **B. Work Session**

### **1. Operating Agreement with Wimberley Birding Society:**

Malcolm Harris said he has talked with David Glenn of the Birding Society (WBS) about the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on management of the WBS refuge produced by the City's attorney. This draft is considerably longer and more legalistic than the original document the WBS proposed. Council member Marilee Wood said she has some concerns about the language of the MOU. Board members agreed the MOU needs more work before it can be recommended to Council.

### **2. Blue Hole Park master plan process:**

Malcolm said the Board is concerned that the process for developing a master plan for the Blue Hole park is not moving forward and that time has been wasted. He stressed the need to have some formal guidelines on how the land is to be used before the City begins opening the park to the public on a regular basis next year.

Council member Marilee Wood reported City officials will meet with representatives of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center on August 18 to discuss the master plan, particularly funding it. She is continuing to meet with potential donors who might be interested in helping to pay for the plan and looking for new fund raisers. Board members discussed with her how much money the City would need to have on hand to begin a master plan process. They agreed that even a partial master plan, covering the part of the park that will be available for public use next year, would be better than nothing. They discussed scheduling of the planning process; the requests from several groups for specific uses and activities in the park; and the need to develop some basic land use guidelines for the park.

### **3. Operation of Blue Hole:**

Board members agreed they have developed a good foundation for operation of the Blue Hole swimming area this year, but that relying only on volunteers is unpredictable. They agreed the City needs to be willing to hire people to manage public openings and referred to the Board recommendation to Council for opening the park on 15 weekends in 2006.

## **C. Consider & Act:**

### **1. Proposed agreement with Wimberley Birding Society:**

Board members deferred action pending revision of the MOU as noted above.

### **2. Labor Day opening of Blue Hole:**

Board members agreed the City should continue the practices used for the July and August openings of Blue Hole. Kay Wilkins asked for volunteers to work shifts.

### **3. Blue Hole Master Plan:**

No action, pending discussions with Wildflower Center.

**D. Announcements, Requests for Future Agenda Items:**

Jan Fulkerson said the City should have some token of appreciation to give everyone involved in the Blue Hole public openings this year, and that there should be a newspaper article with photographs showing the work of volunteers.

Kay Wilkins said the tennis association wants to meet with the Board to ask for support for a grant application. Board members agreed to call a special meeting on August 31 to hear a presentation by the tennis group.

**E. Adjourn:** Board meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Recorded by Dell Hood.

Accepted 8/31/05  
D.H.