

## **Village of Wimberley Parks and Recreation Board**

City Hall, 13210 Ranch Road 12, Wimberley

Minutes of Regular Meeting

September 21, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Malcolm Harris at 6:40 p.m. Present were Board members Fred Franz, Malcolm Harris, Dell Hood, Thad Nance, and Horace Wilson. Board member Jan Fulkerson was excused; members Mark Bursiel, Linda Hudson, and Tim Thompson were absent.

**Public Comment:** Bill Johnson said the map in the Blue Hole park brochure produced by the Trust for Public Land is incorrect in three locations. The map shows his property across Cypress Creek from the park as included in the park, and other boundaries are incorrect as well. Mr. Johnson said he wrote to Anjali Kaul at the Trust for Public Land pointing out the mistakes but has received no answer. He said there could be public relations problems when he confronts people who paid admission to the park and cross the creek onto his property on the basis of the TPL map. Board members discussed the issue with Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and Jay McDonald, including posting signs telling park visitors where park boundaries are and staffing the park when it is open for public use.

### **A. Reports**

#### **1. Cypress Creek Nature Trail construction:**

Horace Wilson reported on the status of construction at the Nature Trail, including the path, retaining wall, playscape, water feature, and replanting of the entry area.

#### **2. U.S. Geological Survey Report on parking lot pollution threat to streams and waterways:**

Malcolm Harris referred to an article in the Austin American-Statesman of June 23, 2005, reporting on contamination of Barton Creek and the Barton Springs pool by runoff from parking lots. Some sealants used to cover asphalt parking lots containing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons are carcinogenic and kill aquatic life. Malcolm pointed out there will be asphalt parking for up to 200 cars at the Community Center and was concerned the builder might use a sealant that would wash down into and pollute Cypress Creek. He suggested the Board take a position opposing such sealants.

Bill Johnson said a similar problem arose when the area in front of Jitters was repaved, and local residents with chemical sensitivity problems made a public issue of the use of such chemicals. He said many residents have fought to have gravel parking lots to reduce chemical runoff.

### **B. Consider & Act**

#### **Recommendation to Council on use of parking lot sealants containing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons:**

Malcolm Harris introduced the item. Board members agreed the item is an issue of

concern in Wimberley, that they oppose the use of such sealants in Wimberley and they would like City officials to look into the matter. They agreed by consensus the issue should be brought to the attention of the Water and Wastewater Advisory Board.

### **C. Work Session**

#### **1. Blue Hole master planning:**

Assistant City Administrator Kay Wilkins said staff from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center will be at City Hall on October 5 for a special called Board meeting to discuss their proposal for the master plan for Blue Hole.

#### **2. Mobility Study hike and bike trail loop proposals:**

Malcolm Harris said the Mobility Study seems to have been lost and nothing seems to be happening on it. Kay Wilkins said the Transportation Advisory Board is doing a survey on walkways and looking for grants to fund their construction. Board members asked for a TAB representative to discuss the issue at the regular October meeting.

#### **3. Recognition of donors at Cypress Creek Nature Trail:**

Board members discussed how donors to the Nature Trail could be recognized publicly, including use of various signs and boards on the main sign board or on the back wall of the pavilion. They agreed there should be some form of public recognition.

#### **4. Rental rates for public use of Blue Hole for weddings, private parties, etc.:**

Kay Wilkins said the City receives at least one request each week for private events at Blue Hole. Board members discussed the proposal and suggested finding out what the policies of other cities are on private use of parks. They noted the Board needs to have rules on what activities would be permitted or prohibited and appropriate rules. Kay Wilkins agreed to contact other cities to ask for information and possible sample agreements on private use of public parks.

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

Horace Wilson noted the terms of four Board members (Mark Bursiel, Malcolm Harris, Jan Fulkerson, and Tim Thompson) expire in October and the Council will make new appointments or re-appointments. The Board will have to elect new officers at the October meeting or as soon as appointments are made.

October agenda items: discussion of an agreement on use of soccer fields at Blue Hole; a final version of the use agreement with the Wimberley Birding Society on the birding refuge; revision of the Parks and Recreation master plan.

Recorded by Dell Hood.