

**Minutes of Haltom City
Parks and Recreation Board
Haltom Recreation Center
January 8, 2008**

Call to Order

Present: Britt Ford, Howard Hoyle, Roland Kuhleman, Steve Mylius, and Paul Strong

Absent: Ike Cowell and Richelle Rhoades

Staff: Tom Henry and Charles Russell

Guests: None

Approval of Minutes

Britt made a **Motion** to accept the Minutes from the December 4, 2007 meeting. Howard seconded and the Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

A. Recreation Center Updates

Tom told the Parks Board members that Hudson's Mobile Glass had completed the replacement of the windowpanes in the adult gym. They replaced the original glass and Plexiglas panes with clear tempered glass. Tom also noted that the standard light switches have been replaced with key switches to reduce the unauthorized activation of the switches. The large lights in the gyms have to cool down before they will come on once more.

B. Parks Donation/Dedication Fund Projects

Tom said that the installation of the two Evos play systems was to have started today. However, the vendor's installation crews were still working on other installations. The installation is now scheduled for next Tuesday, January 15, 2008. The units were delivered to Haltom City in early December. Paul asked if we had any other options for the installations. Tom replied that the vendor's crew would have to do the majority of the installation, but Parks Maintenance workers would finish the job. He did note that the City had used this vendor for a number of years and there had not been any prior problems. The vendor has not been paid for the installation.

Tom said that he has already contacted Victory Awning about assisting with the specifications for the installation of sail-style shades for the units once they are completed. This is the same vendor that installed the hip-style shades at the Broadway Park ball fields.

C. Parks Master Plan Update

Tom said that the staff had sent MHS Planning and Design all of the information that they had requested for the development on a new Parks Master Plan. Paul asked for a projected completion date for the Master Plan. The working completion date is May 2008. Tom noted that the deadline for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department grant applications is in July. Part of the consideration for grants is a current Parks Master Plan.

Paul commented that when the City receives a copy of the initial update that the Parks Board members would be asked to review it and make comments.

New Business

A. Recreation Sports Programs

Tom told the Board that the Youth Basketball Program would begin their season this Saturday January 12, 2008. There are 102 participants on six Junior teams and five Senior teams.

The Coed Volleyball League completed its inaugural season last Thursday with a single elimination tournament. The staff is looking at holding a Spring league and increase the number of participants.

B. Haltom Stampede Specifications

Tom said that he had met with Christi and Charles last Friday to discuss this year's Haltom Stampede. The Police Department had once again requested a change of venue, but the site was changed last year and there was consensus to continue in the current location. The decision was made to eliminate the 10K race due to complaints about the double loop course. The 5K race will be retained and a new 1Mile Fun Run/Walk would be added to the February 9, 2008 event. Tom has contacted the Fire Department and Public Works for support. Christi is working on sponsors and volunteers. The t-shirt design is ready and Charles will go out for bids this week. Steve asked if the 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk could be tie-in with a charitable cause. Tom replied that we would have to see how the new event is received.

Parks and Recreation Director's Report

Tom said that the North Texas Council of Governments is looking into funding the Belknap Street Corridor improvements. Plans for the Loop 820 expansion are less certain for the portion of Haltom City that borders the highway.

Tom told the Board that the Parks Donation Fund was approximately \$100,000 prior to the \$30,000 used to pay for one of the Evos play systems and \$5,000 for the

replacement of the gym window panes. There is money left to fund other Parks Board projects.

Tom and Christi are meeting with representatives of the Pee Wee Football Association tomorrow night to discuss their season. They are also planning to meet with the Boys Baseball and Girls Softball Associations about their upcoming seasons, as they have elected new Board of Directors.

Paul expressed concern that the Parks Board was not receiving copies of the financial statements and minutes from the youth associations. Tom replied that he would have copies made and distributed to the Parks Board members.

Steve inquired about the new digital sign at Haltom Road Park. It was discovered that we had to have a modem, which was ordered, have it installed, and the software loaded.

Paul asked about the status of the available property on Janada Drive. The City is still negotiating with the owners. The Economic Development Commission is prepared to condemn the property if an agreement isn't reached.

The Northeast Optimists intend to have a Spring baseball season this year and will determine whether or not they have recovered sufficiently from last year's floods that damaged their fields. Tom commented that the City would be interested in their fields should the NEO disband their program. Britt noted that the NEO has had offers for their land in the past.

Paul inquired about the status of the disk golf course at North Park. Tom said that the course is being utilized on a regular basis. The group that originally proposed the course had expanded it from nine holes to 18 holes without consulting with the Department. The staff had them adjust a couple of the holes to improve the access for park maintenance and reduce the risk to non-players. The expansion to 18 holes does allow for the City to sponsor disk golf tournaments in the future. There would have to be provisions for parking and services, plus they could not interfere with other activities at North Park. Paul asked Tom to keep the Board apprised of the activities at the disk golf course. Howard commented that he would like to see the disk golf group attend the next Parks Board meeting to update the Board on the status of their efforts and get their thoughts on future activities.

Adjourn

Howard made a **Motion** to adjourn and Roland seconded. The Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles N. Russell
Senior Recreation Assistant