

**Minutes of Haltom City  
Parks and Recreation Board  
Haltom Recreation Center  
May 1, 2007**

**Call to Order**

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

**Absent:** Ike Cowell

**Staff:** Christi Pruitt and Charles Russell

**Guests:** Gary Conner, Roy Conner, and Trisha Wheeler

**Approval of Minutes**

Howard made a **Motion** to accept the Minutes from the April 3, 2007 Parks Board meeting. Britt seconded and the Motion passed.

Gary Conner, Roy Conner, and Trisha Wheeler asked to address the Parks Board in response to their letter sent to the Pee Wee Football Association's Board. Roy wanted to know who had filed the complaints about him with the Parks and Recreation staff. The complaints were about him swearing and allowing players to fight. Christi replied that she had received a phone call from a lady at the beginning of the football spring season. The parent did not want to leave her phone number or name. She also did not want to go before the Pee Wee Football Board, as she felt intimidated by the members of their board. Roy claimed that it never happened and that the complaint did not come from a football parent, but rather from a baseball parent who does not have a child playing football.

Discussions followed concerning accusations about various problems with sports associations and the coaches.

Paul asked that the Parks Board members be allowed to attend the next Pee Wee Football Board meeting. They concurred and will send Paul a letter with the date and location of the meeting. Britt commented that the Parks Board has never received any communications from the youth associations about changes or problems. The associations need to provide updates to their board members and submit volunteer information for background checks. Discussion followed on improving communications between the youth associations and the Parks Board. One suggestion was to change the Facility Use Agreement to require the youth associations to provide the Parks Board with copies of the associations' approved minutes and other documentation by the first of each month. The Recreation staff would archive the information.

The Pee Wee Football representatives left the meeting.

## **Unfinished Business**

### A. Meeting to Tour Parks for Parks Master Plan

Christi informed the Board that the City would like to hire a facilitator during the next budget cycle to assist the Board with the Parks Master Plan. The facilitator would be funded through the Economic Development Commission.

Discussion followed about the previous plans for a Youth Sports Complex and how it was to have been funded. Purchase of the land was part of a quarter-cent sales tax election in January 2000. Christi noted that the City Council has put parks as a priority for this budget cycle, but the May elections might result in changes to the make up of City Council.

The Parks Board will meet in special session at 10 a.m. on Saturday June 23, 2007 to tour the City parks to obtain ideas for improvements.

### B. Disc Golf Proposal for North Park.

Christi had met this morning with Brandon Melton at North Park to go over the site of the proposed disc golf course. She had not received a reply back from the Code Compliance section about the sign for the course. The sign would be enclosed in a message center and would show the course layout and the rules for play. Ed Arthur of the Parks Maintenance division said that maintenance would not be an issue. The Tee Box signs would be temporary until it was determined what the response and the usage of the course would be. Howard asked if the weeds in that part of the park might get transferred to other parks on the mowers. Christi replied that the Department is purchasing a tractor-mounted rotary cutter that should reduce that problem.

Howard made a **Motion** to approve the installation of a temporary disc golf course at North Park. Britt seconded and the Motion passed.

### C. Youth Coach Review Follow-up

Item was covered at the beginning of the meeting.

## **New Business**

### A. Discussion of Summer Meeting Date

Paul asked the Board to consider canceling the July 3, 2007 due to the holiday falling on the next day.

Steve made a **Motion** that the July 3, 2007 meeting be advanced to June 23, 2007 at 10 a.m. so that it might be held in conjunction with the Park Tour. Richelle seconded and the Motion passed.

#### B. Parks Donation Fund Projects

Christi told the Board that the Identification System, Recreation Software, and the additional items and materials for installation were less than \$20,000. There is approximately \$25,000 remaining to be used for other projects.

Howard asked Christi to present the Parks Board at the June 23, 2007 meeting a list of her priorities for the parks along with the cost of the improvements. Christi showed the Board members a new play system called Evos that features arches with activities. The play system does not have any vertical posts. The system costs around \$36,000. There is one installed in Colleyville and it is the only one in Texas. Colleyville is ordering a second system due to the popularity of the first. The company would do the initial installation of the arches, while City employees could install the activities.

#### **Parks and Recreation Director's Report**

Christi did not have any additional items.

Britt asked about the youth ball fields lack of maintenance. Christi replied that the City was responsible for the initial preparation of the youth fields. It is the youth associations' responsibility to maintain the fields during their season. Discussions followed concerning how to make the fields playable after wet weather. Christi noted that she receives complaints about the fields from the umpires and parents, but does not hear from the youth associations. She will attempt to locate or purchase dirt to fill the holes left from all of the rain.

Christi told the Board that she would not be holding adult softball leagues at Little Fossil Park this summer. All games would be played at the North Park field. She is looking at the potential of turning the single adult softball field into two girls softball fields. Discussion followed of how such a plan could be carried out. Howard suggested that the Parks Board invite the Girls Softball Association Board to attend the next Parks Board meeting to get their input on such a change.

#### **Adjourn**

Britt made a **Motion** to adjourn. Richelle seconded and the Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles N. Russell  
Recreation Assistant II