

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING

Minutes DATE: February 8, 2007

Members present:

David Bauer, Arthur Little, Amy Craig, James Ogletree, Molly Grimsley, Joseph Harmon,
Gary Sidor, Brian Knapp, Esther Nasjleti

Absent: Harry Wilbur

Staff present:

Michael McCarty, Director of Parks and Recreation
Bertha McClung, Recreation Coordinator

- 1) Meeting called to Order Time: 7:03

- 2) Approval of Minutes:
 - a. Motion Made by: Gary Sidor
 - b. Motion Seconded: David Bauer

Approved

- 3) Old Business:
 - a. Update on Stafford West and Providence Park
Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that Stafford is still moving forward and will require a public hearing for a Special Use Permit scheduled for sometime at the end of March.

Director McCarty reported that the Providence Park Phase II project is on the city council agenda for Tuesday, Feb 13, 2007. Council will be discussing and making a recommendation for one of the three concepts with or without bathrooms.

 - b. Update on Trails Day
Mr. Harmon informed PRAB that the Event is scheduled for June 2, 2007. The Trails Day Committee reported meeting Thursday, February 1, with staff. Director McCarty and Leslie Herman coordinated with See Mommy Run to have a fun run on Trails day at Daniels Run Park to draw people to event. Ted Greffe Park will also be dedicated on June 2 prior to the Trails Day festivities.

 - c. Update on Community Center
Mr. Knapp reported that he spoke with the Mayor and recommended bringing PRAB and Council together. He suggested presenting Green Acres to them and displaying the facility uses. The Mayor prefers

waiting until the Stafford is approved. Chairperson Knapp also reported that the City Manager, Bob Sisson, supports bringing the two groups together.

d. Expanded Kitty Pozer Garden:

Chairman Knapp reported on the work of the Sub-committee. The committee visited the site, and a draft of the recommendations was distributed to members of PRAB. Chairman Knapp asked members of PRAB if there were any other changes. Ms. Nasjleti recommended adding signage to the Garden that could publicize City events. The proposal will be updated and submitted to Director McCarty. In turn, he will submit to David Hudson from the Community Development and Planning Department, who has the lead in evaluating options for expanding the Garden.

Action Item:

Mr. Ogletree made a motion to approve PRAB's proposals. Mr. Harmon seconded with slight modification adding the signage recommended by Ms. Nasjleti.

e. Sprayground

Director McCarty reported that the FY08 budget will be a difficult budget year. The CIP budget was cut significantly, including the Sprayground and Ratcliffe Park drainage system. PRAB members will be contacting members of Council to inform them of the importance of the Sprayground and advocating it to be included in the FY08 Capital Budget. Chairperson Knapp asked for status of the fence and drinking fountain at Ratcliffe Park.

Action Item:

Chairperson Knapp requested Member Joe Harmon send an e-mail to PRAB members with talking points to raise awareness of PRAB's priority to add the Sprayground back in the city's budget.

f. Park Rules and Regulations

Chairman Knapp, Ms. Nasjleti and Mr. Ogletree agreed to form subcommittee to make recommendations for changes to the current City Code and Parks and Recreation Rules and Regulations by September.

Action Item:

Amy Craig made a motion to approve the committee and Joe Harmon seconded the motion.

Additionally, Chairman Knapp and Joe Harmon will be meeting with members from the School Board (Janice Miller, Amy Craig) to revise the current School Use Agreement.

4) New Business:

- a. Schedule for upcoming weeks

Chairperson Knapp passed out a schedule that ends June 14. The joint School Board/PRAB meeting is scheduled on May 7, 6 pm at City Hall. Gary Sidor recommended adding the public hearing on Stafford Project, March 27, to the calendar of upcoming events.

- b. Open Space Acquisitions and Planned Use
Mike passed out a draft document on Open Space Properties and recommended use of each open space property.

Action Item: Chairperson Knapp will send a reminder to PRAB members to submit any comments on the Open Space Properties document to him for final revision.

- 5) Update from Director of Parks and Recreation:
Director McCarty updated PRAB on the budget proposals.

Action Items: Director McCarty requested PRAB delegate authority to him to approve dedicating trees in parks. PRAB agreed. Director McCarty will invite Dan Phillips to the next PRAB meeting to present on Summer Day Camps and the After School Program. Director McCarty will also ask Karen Bixler, Senior Coordinator, to attend the April PRAB meeting to discuss senior programming.

- 6) Members Time:

Mr. Little -- There will be a presentation for Dr. Cook on February 13 at City Council, recognizing his membership and service on the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority for 23 years.

Ms. Craig – She announced that the specialist running the After School Program at Lanier had resigned.

Ms. Nasjleti – She informed PRAB that the Chocolate Lover’s Festival very well attended (crowded, well attended).

- 7) Adjournment at 8:45 pm.