

Park Board Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
November 12, 2008

Members Present: David Adkisson, Becky Bell, Cally Browning, Katy Morris (arrived 7:05 p.m.), Pat Shovlin, Jeff Pelletier, Robert Solete

Members Absent: Tippi Sorensen; Patrick Booth

Staff Present: Bob Monaghan, Director - Parks and Leisure Services  
Wayne Picket, Recreation Manager  
Larry Apple, Park Manager  
Diane Keeton, Department Secretary  
Cassie Kinkade, Recreation Specialist  
Laura Walker, Recreation Specialist

Guest Speakers: Lenny Hughes and Adam Wood of Halff Associates

**A. Call Meeting to Order and Announce Quorum is Present**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Jeff Pelletier called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

**B. Approval of Minutes from the October 8, 2008 Regular Meeting**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Motion was made by Robert Solete, seconded by Pat Shovlin, to approve the Minutes from the October Regular Meeting. All voted aye.

**C. Overview of the Citywide Trails Master Plan progress by Halff Associates**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Bob Monaghan introduced Lenny Hughes and Adam Wood, both of Halff Associates. Mr. Hughes summarized his background with the firm and gave some history of the company, founded in 1950, with nine offices in Texas. In explaining Mr. Wood's association with Halff Associates, it was noted that he was the trail cyclist/enthusiast for the organization.

Mr. Hughes then began his presentation by explaining reasons for trails and the important role the planning process plays in establishing any trail system. Tactics of visioning, consideration of the quality of life, and construction for a unique and broad population can determine trail systems. Among other factors was the ability to inventory the public needs, demographics, self-policing aspects as well as setting goals. Various pictures were presented showing eight to ten foot trail

corridors as preferable. It is important to remember to develop standards and accomplish funding opportunities for any trail system.

Mr. Wood presented an aerial map of Lewisville and surrounding area cities that depicted linking bike routes. After having traveled the area, he noted various spots for trailheads, which were to include signage and parking.

Robert Solete questioned safety issues regarding bicycles and it was noted that Plano had a good educational system of public bike usage. Mr. Monaghan pointed out that other cities with multiple cyclists had learned to install proper signage to accommodate traffic and the fact that those cities with universities tended to be more bike-friendly towards their users. With the addition of well signed routes, usage will increase and motorist will become accustomed to looking for the cyclist and the routes will ultimately be safer and more bike friendly.

Mr. Hughes noted that as key issues came up, progress updates would be necessary. The I35 barrier was an important thread by which the trails would necessitate special engineering at the various crossings. Pavement symbols and striping the bike lanes would be required. The largest issue perceived at this point in time would be how to construct trails across I35. Strategic city destinations would be targeted to encourage tourism.

Mr. Monaghan explained the LID (Levee Improvement District) involvement with mini-entertainment areas of retail shops, the mall, and overlooks as accent points of the trailheads. The Economic Development Department is currently working with the LID property owners for possible trail design and funding.

Cally Browning questioned how the existing park structures and trails in Lewisville, compared to other cities. Mr. Hughes stated there were a few drainage issues, but most sites they visited were in good condition and would respond well to construction improvements.

**D. Update on various PALS Activities and Programs**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Larry Apple, who was promoted from Operations Supervisor to Park Manager, was introduced to the Board. Paul ("P.T.") Moore would assume Mr. Apple's responsibilities as Operation Supervisor, and Randy Johnson would assume Mr. Moore's position as Foreman.

Special events noted were: Holiday at the Hall on December 6<sup>th</sup>; and on December 12th, the Departmental Holiday Luncheon will be held in the Community Room from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Wayne Pickett had some updates to share with the Board members. He thanked Cally Browning for her participation in judging the costumes at the Autumn Extravaganza. The Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon for the seniors will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2008, at the Senior Activity Center, beginning at 11:30 a.m. The Stargazers Program is discontinuing due to John Olson's retirement.

Robert Solete complimented the progress on the Timber Creek Trail and its signage and amendments.

Cassie Kinkade passed along patron compliments about the Spooktacular Trails event. Many citizen compliments were received about the Timbercreek Trail construction at that event. This was the first year the City has hosted the Spooktacular Trails and it was a grand success – with about 2,000 participants. Nine businesses participated, along with volunteers at 21 stations placed outdoors around the Memorial Park trail. A tent was set up, with storytelling recordings for the kids to hear as well as a vendor area selling apple cider. Various suggestions were made regarding ways to improve the event for next year.


Jeff Pelletier noted the Railroad Park dedication went well. He said it was amazing to see an aerial view of all of the concrete, i.e. parking lots and roadways under construction, and to see the park finally taking shape. The laborious work that the Park Board accomplished to raise the 4B awareness is actually coming into view.

**E. Adjournment**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Becky Bell made the motion to adjourn; David Adkisson seconded the motion and all voted aye. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

  
Bob Monaghan, Director  
Parks and Leisure Services

  
Jeff Pelletier, Chairperson  
Park Board