

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 16, 2011
6:30 P.M.

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Converse Met for a Regular Meeting in the City Hall Conference Room Located at 405 S. Seguin to Discuss the Following Agenda Items:

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Chairman Stubbs called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors.

Mr. Leon Stubbs, Chairman
Mr. Everet Taylor, Member
Mr. Steve Bissell, Member
Ms. Leigh Ann Rogers, Secretary

Mr. Jeff Beehler, Member
Ms. Janie Olds, Member
Councilman John Shadron, Liaison

Vice-Chairman Perez and Member, Ms. Tulita Harris, both had previously reported that they would be unable to attend this meeting due to schedule conflicts.

Visitor, Ms. Mildred Jernigan, was recognized.

3. Citizens to be Heard. This Time is Provided for Citizens to Address Parks and Recreation Commission on Any Issues and Concerns. No Parks and Recreation Commission Discussion or Action Can Be Taken if the Item is not on the Agenda. Please Limit Your Remarks to Three (3) Minutes and State Your Name and Address for the Record.

None.

4. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Conducted February 2, 2011.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting conducted February 2, 2011 was made by Mr. Beehler. Seconded by Ms. Olds. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion to Identify Needs for Converse City Park and Converse North Park for Park Master Plan.

Councilman Shadron reported the City Council has already begun preparation for Strategic Planning workshops which will subsequently incorporate the Economic Development Corporation, the Chairs of all City Commissions, and the community.

Since there are several new members on this Commission, Chairman Stubbs requested time to gather information from previous meetings regarding the Parks Master Plan to share with the new members. Further discussion next month.

6. Update Discussions for Parks and Recreation Commission Scheduled Events for 2011.

A. Park and Shine. (Mr. Beehler and Ms. Olds)

Mr. Beehler reported this event is still being postponed until at least April or May.

B. Easter Egg Hunt – April 16, 2011. (Ms. Harris and Ms. Olds)

Ms. Olds reported she is in the process of drafting donation solicitation letters. Reports of several other Easter Egg Hunt plans including the Fire/EMS Alumni, American Legion, and the Judson Transportation Yellow Brigade were discussed. Based on this new information, Ms. Olds suggested cancelling the Parks and Recreation Commission Easter Egg Hunt. Chairman Stubbs suggested offering assistance to these other groups with their events. Mr. Taylor suggested continuation of planning for a Parks and Recreation Commission Easter Egg Hunt for next year. Ms. Olds volunteered to contact the Judson Transportation Yellow Brigade to offer the assistance of the Parks and Recreation Commission and will report back next month.

C. Joint Halloween Event with American Legion.

No report. Put on next month's agenda pending research of previous minutes regarding this item.

D. City of Converse 50th Anniversary Raffle – April 9, 2011.

Vice-Chairman Perez reported via a phone message earlier in the day that he had some items for the raffle. Ms. Olds reported she had obtained the wagon and the raffle tickets. The members collectively agreed to charge \$1 per raffle ticket. A list of all items collected for the raffle will be e-mailed to Ms. Rogers for distribution.

7. Update Discussion on the Development of a Bird Guide for Bird Watchers at Converse North Park. (Chairman Stubbs and Mr. Taylor)

Chairman Stubbs and Mr. Taylor reported on the tour that took place at North Park on February 5, 2011. Report and discussion included:

- Chairman Stubbs, Mr. Taylor, and Councilman Shadron were present and conducted the tour with Ms. Sheridan Coffey of the Audubon Society along with her husband, Martin.
- Tour lasted approximately two hours.
- Several birds were identified.
- Suggestions for the creation of a butterfly garden were discussed. A location was determined for the butterfly garden and a point of contact for assistance was provided.
- Approximately 65 different bird species at North Park.
- Suggestions for bird photographs and information kiosks throughout park.
- Suggestions to seek assistance from Texas Master Gardeners and the Eagle Scouts in creating the butterfly garden.
- Concern regarding whether there is an adequate water source to maintain the garden at the proposed location, or not. Suggestion to ask City to dig a trench and install an inexpensive PVC water line to the garden.

8. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Host and/or Participate in a 09/11/11 Ceremony.

Fire/EMS Alumni, CCPAAA, and the American Legion need to be contacted before this can be discussed. Motion to table this agenda item until next meeting was made by Ms. Olds. Seconded by Mr. Taylor. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Sponsor Arbor Day Events in the Future.

Following a brief discussion, motion to approve sponsoring Arbor Day events in the future was made by Ms. Olds. Seconded by Mr. Beehler. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve Creation of a Butterfly Garden at Converse North Park.

Much of this agenda item was discussed during agenda item # 7. No action taken.

11. Briefing by City Council Liaison.

Councilman Shadron reported on recent appointments to the Planning and Zoning and Parks and Recreation Commissions, approval of a contract with Randolph High School regarding the use of a baseball field at Converse City Park, approval to move forward on building a 750,000 gallon ground storage tank, and the new marquee sign going up soon in front of City Hall.

12. Discussion of Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

- Bring back agenda item # 8.
- Parks Master Planning discussion.
- 50th Anniversary Raffle and other events reports.
- Butterfly garden committee report. (Chairman Stubbs/Mr. Taylor/Mr. Bissell)
- Creation of dog run/dog park discussion. (Mr. Taylor)

13. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting – March 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Next meeting will take place on March 14, 2011 as regularly scheduled.

14. Adjournment.

Chairman Stubbs adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.