

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AUGUST 9, 2010
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 Selko called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Ms. Kathy Selko, Chairman
Mr. Rex Brien, Member
Mr. Jeff Beehler, Member
Ms. Leigh Ann Rogers, Secretary

Mr. Sam Perez, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Tulita Harris, Member
Councilman John Shadron, Liaison

Member, Ms. Becky Johnson, was not present for the meeting. Chairman Selko stated she had heard nothing from Ms. Johnson regarding her absence and asked if anyone else had heard from Ms. Johnson. No one had any information to provide.

Ms. Celeste Morris, Ms. Alana Forster, Councilman Randy Pannell, and Councilman Steve Brown were recognized visitors.

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.

There were no citizens to be heard.

4. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Conducted July 12, 2010.

Mr. Beehler requested a correction. Agenda item # 7, 3rd paragraph, 1st sentence, “*Mr. Beehler agreed to put together flyers for the car events for 2nd Saturdays and to map out an area for a haunted hayride at the lake property.*” Mr. Beehler stated that he did not agree to map out an area for a haunted hayride at the lake property and that it was Ms. Becky Johnson who volunteered for the task.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting conducted July 12, 2010 with the above mentioned correction was made by Mr. Beehler. Seconded by Mr. Rex Brien. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve Projects for Community Service Workers.

Chairman Selko reported discussions with Mr. Bob Karre who was able to provide two individuals to assist with park projects, specifically, picking up rocks in the football fields at North Park. Vice-Chairman Perez made a motion to approve utilizing the two youths to remove rocks from the football fields at North Park. Mr. Beehler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with one abstention, Ms. Harris, due to her affiliation with the football teams.

6. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve a Haunted House Fundraiser.

Ms. Becky Johnson was not present for this meeting, therefore, no information on the research for a possible location for the haunted house was available. Also, suggestions were made to begin planning for these events earlier on.

Ms. Harris made a motion to DISAPPROVE plans for a haunted house fundraiser this year. Seconded by Mr. Beehler. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Discuss Park and Shine, Car Show, Fundraiser Developments.

Mr. Beehler reported limited ability to do research on the car event due to a knee injury, but, did agree to start in the near future. Mr. Beehler also requested assistance from Mr. Andy Selko with the flyers. A tentative plan to begin the events on the second Saturday of October was also discussed.

8. Discussion of Action Taken by City Council at the July 20th City Council Meeting Regarding the Removal of the Slides and See Saw at North Park.

Chairman Selko reported on her presentation to the City Council and explained that the item died due to lack of motion, in other words, no action will be taken on this matter. Chairman Selko also mentioned she is researching the costs of replacing the see/saw and is seeking outside donations.

Mr. Beehler expressed his disappointment in what he feels is poor maintenance of the existing equipment and provided an example: replacing broken or missing bolts with the wrong sized bolts in the see/saw.

9. Discussion of Proceeding in Developing a Park Master Plan.

Discussion included comments regarding a lack of knowing where to begin on developing a master plan, requests for aerial maps of the parks, inquiries on the timeline for projects already funded, and federal grant possibilities.

Councilman Shadron provided a handout he prepared which highlighted the areas in which the Commission members should focus to effectively begin preparing their master plan. Councilman Shadron suggested tackling one area each meeting and to do the homework ahead of time to be prepared for the discussion. Next month, the discussion will pertain to existing parks.

10. Discussion of the Parks and Rec Budget for FY 2010-2011 Received by City Council.

Discussion included references to the current proposed budget pertaining to the parks, September 23, 2010 budget will be finalized, and an additional \$30,000 from the EDC's budget going towards equipment covers and a road in North Park.

11. Discussion and Action to Hold a 9/11 Ceremony on September 11th with the Fire and EMS Alumni at the North Park Pavilion Honoring the Firemen, Police Officers, and Civilians Who Lost Their Lives.

Councilman Shadron reported this event will probably be relatively small this year but stressed the importance of hosting activities at the parks. In addition, Councilman Shadron suggested speakers for the event to include the Mayor, Fire Chief, Police Chief, and possibly someone from the American Legion, will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the North Park pavilion, should last approximately thirty to forty-five minutes, juice and doughnuts provided, fire trucks on display, and advertising in the free weekly calendar in the Herald newspaper.

Chairman Selko reported the Fire Department Chaplain, John Luft, will do the invocation and a person to play the bagpipes has been lined up. Chairman Selko then stated she has concerns regarding the location of this event due to lack of restrooms at North Park and suggested having the event at the Fire Station or Police Department instead. In addition, Chairman Selko mentioned the task of taking equipment like tables and chairs to the park versus having the equipment already available at either the Fire Station or Police Department and requiring the use of City employees on a Saturday to provide assistance with moving the equipment back and forth would be alleviated if the location were changed.

The Commission members mutually agreed the event was a good idea and should move forward under the coordination of Councilman Steve Brown with the Fire and EMS Alumni, Chairman Selko and the Police Alumni, and Councilman John Shadron. Motion to approve a 9/11 ceremony was made by Mr. Beehler. Seconded by Ms. Harris. Motion passed unanimously.

12. Briefing by City Council Liaison.

Councilman Shadron reported on final approvals for the Planning and Zoning/Beautification and Environmental/Building and Standards Commissions, an operations briefing for the JYSF from Mr. Rex Brien, a first reading for Ordinance 321, approval of the milestone schedule for the 2010-2011 FY budget, a presentation/request from Chairman Selko to remove the see/saw and slide from the park died due to lack of motion, plans for the 50th anniversary of Converse, budget revisions, two IT consultant selections for development of the City website, four scholarship presentations, and recognition of Harold and Cathy Bellamy for their efforts in raising funds for the Fischer House.

13. Discussion of Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

- Park and Shine events.
- Master Plan – existing parks.
- Grant Information from Mr. Mark Luft.
- Fundraisers/park activities.

14. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting – September 13, 2010.

The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will take place on September 13, 2010 as regularly scheduled.

15. Adjournment.

Chairman Selko adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.