

MINUTES  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
JULY 11, 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 6:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors.**

Mr. Leon Stubbs, Chairman	Mr. Sam Perez, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Jeff Beehler, Member	Ms. Tulita Harris, Member
Ms. Janie Olds, Member	Mr. Steve Bissell, Member
Councilwoman Kathy Richel, Liaison	Mr. Karl Hoppes, Director of Facilities
Ms. Shawna Dowell, City Manager	Ms. Leigh Ann Rogers, Secretary

Member, Mr. Everet Taylor, was not present and no information was provided regarding his absence.

Alternate Member, Mr. John Shadron, previously reported he would be unable to attend this meeting.

Visitors included: Ms. Dorothy Dowell, Councilwoman Laura Beehler, Councilman Andy Selko, Ms. Mildred Jernigan, and James McKee.

**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 June 13, 2011.**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting conducted June 13, 2011 was made by Ms. Olds. Seconded by Mr. Beehler. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission Special Meeting Conducted June 23, 2011.**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission special meeting conducted June 23, 2011 was made by Ms. Olds. Seconded by Mr. Beehler. Motion passed unanimously with two abstentions, Ms. Harris and Vice-Chairman Perez, who were not present for the meeting.

**\*Skipped ahead to agenda item # 13 here.**

**13. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Recommend Approving a Proposal Allowing Mr. Steve Bissell to Utilize Public Access Television to Televis Public Events for the City of Converse. (Chairman Stubbs)**

Motion to table this agenda item indefinitely by Mr. Beehler who thinks it's a good idea, however, it has nothing to do with Parks and Recreation. Motion died due to lack of a second.

City Manager, Ms. Dowell, then spoke briefly stating this item is relevant for the City Council agenda but not for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Ms. Dowell also mentioned the City Staff and City Council are heavily involved in the budget process at this time but will forward this request to the City Council to address as soon as possible.

Mr. Beehler then made his motion again to table this agenda item indefinitely. Seconded by Ms. Olds. Motion passed with five (Stubbs, Beehler, Harris, Perez, Olds) in favor of and one (Bissell) opposed.

**\*Resumed back to the normal order of the agenda here.**

**6. Follow Up Discussion Regarding June 23<sup>rd</sup> Tour of North Park. (Chairman Stubbs)**

Chairman Stubbs thanked Mr. Karl Hoppes and Ms. Tracy Campos for their contributions to this meeting, particularly mentioning the map prepared by Ms. Campos. Copies of this map were distributed to the members.

Further discussion included:

- Suggestion for future discussion of selling bricks/pavers for walking trails. Also suggested including the Beautification and Environmental Commission in this discussion.

- City Manager reported there is still approximately \$35,000 in the budget for the parks. Still preparing for immediate needs, but, this money will more than likely be available for the electrification of the new restroom at North Park and/or other projects.
  - Purchase of boulders to be used as parking regulators will be addressed at next available City Council meeting.
7. **Follow Up Discussion Regarding the Presentation by San Antonio River Authority Engineer, Mr. Dale Bransford, to Discuss Enhancing Park Development and Federal Funding Resources for Converse Parks. (Chairman Stubbs)**

Chairman Stubbs reported he will continue to attempt to make contact with Mr. Bransford for more advice on grant possibilities.

8. **Update Discussion on the Quarterly Report by the Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission Presented to the City Council on June 21, 2011. (Chairman Stubbs)**

Chairman Stubbs handed out copies of his report to the Commission members. City Manager, Ms. Dowell, reported receiving positive feedback from City Council regarding the Parks and Recreation Commission.

9. **Update Discussions for Parks and Recreation Commission Scheduled Events for 2011.**

**A. Park and Shine. (Mr. Beehler)**

No report.

**B. 9/11/11 Ceremony. (Mr. Beehler)**

Mr. Beehler reported the next American Legion meeting will be July 13, 2011, the American Legion wants to relocate the event from North Park to City Park, and the American Legion is requesting involvement of the City for this event.

City Manager, Ms. Dowell, reported meeting with Mr. Evans of the American Legion. They discussed having police and fire to provide vehicles for the event, raising a flag at the top of the ladder truck, City will provide a podium and stage for the event, and Ms. Dowell is the City staff liaison for this event.

**C. Scary Movie in the Park, October 29, 2011. (Vice-Chair Perez and Ms. Harris)**

No report, still awaiting verification of available funds for this event. City Manager, Ms. Dowell, reported the money is currently available, but, that could change. Will follow-up with a more definite answer in late August or September following budget workshops.

**10. Update Discussion on the Development of a Bird Guide for Bird Watchers and Butterfly Garden at Converse North Park. (Chairman Stubbs, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Bissell)**

Chairman Stubbs reported he and Mr. Bissell have been actively pursuing this project, however, Mr. Taylor has not. Chairman Stubbs further reported on discussions with Mr. Howard Banks, a professional landscape artist, who is willing to meet with the Commission and provide assistance with layout designs for park projects. Mr. Bissell reported on his planting several new yuccas and cacti at North Park.

**11. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve a Plan to Name the Lakes of Converse Parks.**

Discussion included: Councilwoman Richel provided information on several founding fathers associated with the City and City Parks, Mr. Bissell liked the idea of using the Salitrillo Creek names recommended by Ms. Becky Johnson, Councilman Selko suggested researching information regarding water sources that feed the lakes, and Mr. Beehler suggested researching who was responsible for donating the land to the City. Mr. Hoppes offered to research Mr. Beehler's suggestion. Also deliberated, with so many different names of families to consider, the Commission will have to be concerned about the possibility of offending whichever families whose names are not chosen. Mr. Hoppes suggested naming new additions to the parks as they come in, such as shade covers, after the families in an attempt to include more family names.

A motion to table this agenda item until the next regular meeting to allow more time for research was made by Mr. Bissell. Seconded by Ms. Harris. Motion passed unanimously.

**12. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve Involvement in 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Activities. (Mr. Bissell)**

Mr. Bissell reported having discussions with Ms. Sandy Dungan. Unfortunately, Ms. Dungan stated she has not had a lot of time to dedicate to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday events. Mr. Bissell offered to assist Ms. Dungan and suggested including the City Park in the festivities by providing live music, farmers' markets, flea markets, etc., out there.

Vice-Chairman Perez stated moving these events to the City Park could end up taking away from, rather than adding to, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday festivities.

Ms. Harris stated the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday events are separate from and do not involve the Parks and Recreation Commission, primarily because these events do not take place in the park.

Mr. Hoppes suggested hosting a "Public Works Week" at the parks and invite the community to come out to see the Public Works vehicles and equipment, have Parks and Recreation Commission and Public Works cook hotdogs, etc.

Mr. Bissell stated he feels the parks should have live music playing in the park every weekend.

Chairman Stubbs reminded Mr. Bissell that these events should be revenue generators, should not cost the City money, and would be Mr. Bissell's responsibility.

Ms. Harris made a motion to table this agenda item until the next regularly scheduled meeting to allow Mr. Bissell time to provide more information. Seconded by Ms. Olds. Motion passed unanimously with one abstention, Mr. Bissell.

**13. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Recommend Approving a Proposal Allowing Mr. Steve Bissell to Utilize Public Access Television to Televis Public Events for the City of Converse. (Chairman Stubbs)**

This agenda item was addressed earlier.

**14. Park Improvement Report from Director of Facilities, Mr. Karl Hoppes.**

Mr. Hoppes reported on finishing up the parking ballards project at North Park, routine maintenance (mowing, trimming, etc.), a call out to Gerard Electric regarding a pole at City Park Ballfield # 1, plans to bring in topsoil to fill holes on the football field at North Park, and the City pool is doing really well so far this season.

**15. Briefing by City Council Liaison.**

Chairman Stubbs thanked Councilwoman Richel for everything she is doing for the Commission. Councilwoman Richel then reported the City Council has been focused on budget and water issues recently.

**16. Discussion of Agenda Items for Next Meeting.**

- Bring back agenda items #'s 9 - 12.
- Presentation from Howard Banks.
- Appoint vice-chair for one-year term.
- Paver fundraiser discussion.

**17. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting – August 8, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.**

Next meeting will be August 8, 2011, as regularly scheduled.

**18. Adjournment.**

Chairman Stubbs adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.