

**MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
November 5, 2007
6:30 PM**

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Converse Met for a Regular Meeting at the City Hall Conference Room #2, Located at 601 South Seguin Street, Monday, November 5, 2007 at 6:30 PM and Discussed the Following Agenda Items:

1. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joella Schindler at approximately 6:32 pm. The following members were present:

Ms. Joella Schindler, Chairman	Ms. Pam Kraemer, Vice-Chair
Ms. Jennifer White, Member	Ms. Sandy Laskowski, Member
Mr. Jim Neeley, Member	Mr. Glenn Laskowski, Member
Mr. Rex Brien, Member	Mr. Sam Perez, Jr., Member
Ms. Tonya Drake, Member	Mr. Jeff Beehler, Alternate Member
Ms. Nancy Bazany, Council Liaison	Mr. Sam Hughes, City Manager
Ms. Leigh Ann Rogers, Recording Secretary	

Members, Ms. Angie Martinez and Mr. Richard Schobinger, and Alternate Member, Mr. Jorge Topete, were not present.

2. Recognition of Visitors.

Chairman Schindler welcomed all visitors. See attached sign-in sheet for those who were present.

3. Action to Approve Minutes of Meeting Conducted October 1, 2007.

Mr. Glenn Laskowski stated he was mentioned as “not present” for the October 1, 2007 meeting, however, he was in fact “present”.

Motion to approve the minutes of meeting conducted October 1, 2007 with the above mentioned correction was made by Mr. Rex Brien. Seconded by Mr. Glenn Laskowski. Motion passed unanimously. Ms. Jennifer White abstained from the vote in view of the fact that she was not present for the October 1, 2007 meeting.

4. Night in Ole Converse Conclusion Discussion.

Discussion included:

- Financial reports provided by the Director of Finance were reviewed.
- Plans for more profitable Sundays including charging \$1 entrance, more advertisement for the Fire Department equipment and helicopter displays, and music of any kind.
- Heavier community service coverage, particularly later in the evenings, on Friday and Saturday nights. A suggestion to implement an hourly “check-in” station for community service workers and identifying attire such as brightly-colored vests or hats for better monitoring of the workers whereabouts.
- Suggestion to designate all Commission members with specific job assignments.
- Rotate band locations and consider looking for a new band for Saturday night.
- Order new signs, perhaps more sturdy ones or more banners strategically placed. Suggestions to change from Dixie Flag to another sign maker. Also noted, Dixie Flag owes the City one month’s credit for one banner next year according to Martha of Dixie Flag.
- Suggested improvements for Kids Korner were more advertising, dress-up area for girls, altering hours to later in the day and into the evening, and water balloons.
- Suggestion to hold auction at the City Hall Conference Room following the parade instead of at the park to bring in interested parties who would like to attend the auction but are not interested in paying the gate fees and entering the park. In addition, starting the auction approximately 30-45 minutes later would allow for a more organized set-up and would make sound system arrangements easier. Also considered, having the auction on an evening prior to the start of Night of in Ole Converse.
- ATM reportedly dispensed \$9,190 as opposed to \$7,400 in 2005 and 90% of the monies dispensed statistically stay at the event.

5. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Approve Christmas Decorating Contest Details.

Discussion included:

- Date and time set for judging is December 10, 2007 starting at 6:00 pm.
- Deadline to register will be December 7, 2007.
- Prize monies are \$100 for 1st place, \$50 for 2nd, and \$25 for 3rd. There will be two separate categories, business and residential.
- No visit from Santa this year.

- Headcount for those who will ride along the judging route to accommodate transportation needs.

Motion to approve details of Christmas Decorating Contest was made by Ms. Tonya Drake. Seconded by Ms. Sandy Laskowski. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion of Beautification and Environmental Commission Trees.

Discussion included:

- Confusion regarding where the trees were obtained from and why the Parks and Recreation Commission members were not informed of their assumed participation in the placement of the trees.
- Suggestions to put the trees at North Park and East Park. Final decision to place trees at North Park.
- Request for volunteers to plant trees. Coordinate date and time to meet (Sunday, November 11, at 8:00 am).
- City Manager, Mr. Sam Hughes, offered the assistance of the City of Converse Grounds Department personnel.

7. Discussion and Appropriate Action to Form Park Relocation Committee.

Discussion included:

- Committee is needed to do research and report back to and advise the Parks and Recreation Commission members on decision-making regarding park relocation strategies.
- Priorities for the Committee should be the pavilion by Fire Station # 1, facilities at the City Park, relocation of NIOC and consideration of stages and electrical required for the event, reminder that the City has doubled in population since the original park was built, creation of a Master Plan using maps and any other necessary tools, and preparation for commitment as this project will take a long time to truly coordinate.
- Volunteers assigned to the Committee are Mr. Glenn Laskowski, Ms. Tonya Drake, Mr. Rex Brien, Mr. Sam Perez, Jr., and Mr. Jeff Beehler.
- Park Relocation Committee to meet on Monday, November 26, 2007, at 6:30 pm in Conference Room # 2 located at 601 S. Seguin.

8. Briefing by City Council Liaison.

Councilwoman Nancy Bazany reported:

- Mr. Howie Marbach was appointed to the EDC Board.
- Judge Ed Phillips was appointed as the Associate Judge for a three-month period.
- Two new LED signs at Walgreen's and A to Z Rentals were approved.
- Approved variance for the new JISD football and track stadium.
- 2007-2008 street improvements program was discussed.

9. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting – December 10, 2007, at 6:30 pm in the City Hall Conference Room.

Meeting will start thirty minutes early at 6:00 pm rather than 6:30 pm to begin the judging of the Decorating Contest.

10. Adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm by Chairman Schindler.