

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
December 8, 2008
6:30 P.M.

The Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Converse met for a regular meeting at the City Hall Conference Room located at 405 South Seguin, Monday, December 8, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. to Discuss the Following Agenda Items:

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Chairman Lindgren called the meeting at approximately 6:32 PM.

2. Roll Call and Recognition of Visitors.

Chairman Lindgren announced Ms. Johnson and Ms. Swanson have an excused absence and Ms. Kraemer has resigned from the commission as of today.

Visitors were Councilman Schindler, Laura Beehler, Carl Mutschler, Ada Wear, Robert Fink, Councilman Rene Rodriguez, Mary Rodriquez, Robert Kneupper, and Robert Farley, Councilman Jon Lindgren, Steve Brown, and Linda Roberson.

Ms. Joan Lindgren, Chairman
Ms. Sandy Laskowski, Vice-Chair
Mr. Jeff Beehler, Member
Mr. Sam Perez, Jr., Member
Mr. Rex Brian, Member

Ms. Kathy Selko, Member
Mr. Glenn Laskowski, Member
Dr. Mary Riley, Council Liaison
Ms. Jackie Gaines, Secretary

3. Action to Approve Minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Conducted November 10, 2008.

Mr. Laskowski made a motion to approve the minutes of meeting conducted November 10, 2008 with a correction on page 2, item 5 stating the commission did not make Ms. Swanson an alternate member; Ms. Swanson remains a full member and just agreed to become an alternate member if asked by the commission and to add his name to the Members Present line. Mr. Beehler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Action to Approve Minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Conducted November 22, 2008.

Mr. Beehler made a motion to approve the minutes of meeting conducted November 22, 2008. Mr. Brien seconded the motion. The motion passed with five for and two abstentions from Selko and Perez due to not attending November 22nd meeting.

5. Briefing by City Council Liaison.

Councilwoman Riley discussed the following:

- In November the Council approved Ordinance 207 that provides Homestead Exemptions of one percent from ad valorem property tax available to all citizens and additional homestead exemptions of \$10,000 for qualifying owners 65 years of age or more.
- Variances of Ordinance 617 on a front yard setbacks of a front yard and a back yard.
- R. L. Jones is to perform the construction of the Toepperwein improvement project.
- Ordinance 339 had a second reading on December 2nd to establish water rates.
- A presentation was given on behalf of Senator Judith Zaffarini honoring the 35th annual Night In Ole Converse.
- Ms. Renee Paschall was appointed the EDC board of directors.
- Preliminary acceptance of the infrastructure in the Judson Heights Subdivision.
- Final plat approval of Lott's Landing subdivision.
- Has a proposal from Peerless Equipment, LTD to install a new pump, motor, and controls at the Bob Grubb well.
- Had a briefing and discussion to plan and develop a small dog park within the boundaries of Converse.
- Ordinance 702 adopting a water conservation plan to supersede Ordinance 702 dated February 15, 2005.
- Resolution 619 authorizing the filing of a grant application (s) with Bexar County to fund 2009 and authorizing the City Manager to act on behalf of the City of Converse in all matters related to the applications.
- Discussion on a request to approve a new personnel position to plan and manage P&R infrastructure projects for the city. The Council would like P&R's input on this item by the second meeting in January.
- Thanked the P&R members once again for the work that each member did to put on NIOC.

6. Discussion by Converse Lions Club Members on the NIOC Beer Contract.

Mr. Fink passed out pamphlets that described the charitable organizations the Lions Club is affiliated. Mr. Fink added that selling Budweiser beer would be more profitable than selling Miller.

Mr. Farley gave the history for NIOC which he stated was started by the Converse Lions Club with the intent that the fund raising would be given to non-profit organizations. Years later the City took over NIOC and opened up the event to for-profit entities. Since NIOC has grown, some of the non-profit organizations have had to abandon the event due to rising cost. One hundred percent of the money generated by the Lions Club is donated to the charities listed earlier and others that come to them in need of a donation. NIOC is the Converse Lions Club primary fund raiser. Mr. Farley discussed the increases in fees from the city for the Lions Club contract. The city has violated the contract in section D in the terms reads 'The City will negotiate in conjunction with the vendor in the selection of the beer supplier.' P&R has not invited the Lions Club to negotiate the contract. Mr. Farley added when the American Legion had a spring event this year, their beer sales were up from the Lions Club due to the fact of selling Budweiser.

Ms. Ada Wear stated the Lions Club is interested in negotiating another contract since their five year contract is expired.

The commission decided to make a decision on the NIOC beer contract on the next regular meeting.

7. Discussion and Action for Locations of Barbeque Pits and Restrooms for North Park.

Chairman Lindgren displayed a map denoting locations of barbeque pits, restrooms, and table locations.

Mr. Perez made a motion to approve the general locations of the barbeque pits and restrooms. Mr. Beehler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion of Night In Ole Converse 2009 Assignments.

Chairman Lindgren would like to see no more than two major assignments to a P&R member.

Chairman Lindgren moved to item 9 while the members made their decision for the 2009 NIOC assignments.

Later in the meeting the commission members turned in the following NIOC 2009 assignment sheet:

- Entertainment Mr. Perez
- Advertising Chairman Lindgren
- Food Vendor Ms. Laskowski
- Live Auction Mr. Laskowski
- Sponsorship Mr. Brien
- Parade Mr. Perez will assist
- Extreme Night Ms. Swanson
- Weenie Toss Rene Rodriguez
- Cake Walk Mr. Laskowski
- Dunking Booth Mr. Brien
- Grievance Committee All Members
- Beer Contract Mr. Perez will assist
- Arts and Craft Ms. Selko

Items left open are Car Show, Community Service, and Poster Contest.

9. Discussion and Action of NIOC 2009 Letters.

The commission discussed the letters from 2008 and agreed to have the assigned member in charge of updating the changes and notify the recording secretary of the changes.

Mr. Beehler made a motion to change the letters as needed with a second from Mr. Perez. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Discussion to Divide the Duties of Parks and Recreation and Night In Ole Converse.

Chairman Lindgren asked each member to state their opinion of dividing the duties of Parks and Recreation and NIOC. The opinions are as follows:

- Mr. Brien-Parks and Recreation should be separated from other park events.
- Mr. Beehler-Agreed to split the duties.
- Ms. Selko-Against the split and suggested asking all commissions for their input and support and have NIOC become a sub-committee.

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting December 8, 2008

- Mr. Perez-Against the split but asked to keep current commission members for NIOC if the decision is made to split the duties.
- Ms. Laskowski-Against splitting the duties.
- Chairman Lindgren-Believes the commission can take on both duties.
- Mr. Laskowski-Against the split of duties.

11. Discussion of Ordinance 303 as Requested by City Council.

* Councilwoman Riley departed at approximately 8:15 PM.

The topics discussed on Ordinance 303 were:

- NIOC budget and questioned the cost spent to run NIOC.
- Setting up a petty cash fund.
- Creating a Dog Park will affect the Master Plan
- Opposition on commission members being Council members.
- Opposition of married couples on the same commission.

12. Discussion of Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

- Discussion and action to approve the Lions Club being awarded the beer contract.
- Master Plan.
- Dog Park.
- Parks Manager.
- Haunted hay ride.
- Easter event.

13. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting – January 12, 2009.

14. Adjournment.

Chairman Lindgren adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:42 PM.