

MINUTES  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
January 12, 2009  
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, January 12, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. to discuss the following Agenda items:

**1. Call Meeting to Order.**

Chairman Lindgren called the meeting to order at approximately 6:34 P. M.

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

Chairman Lindgren recognized Councilmen Rodriguez, Mr. Howie Marbach, Mr. Robert Fink, Councilmen Lindgren, Mr. John Shadron, and Carl Mutschler.

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

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

Ms. Laskowski arrived at approximately 7:06 P. M.

**3. Action to Approve Minutes of Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Conducted December 8, 2008.**

Mr. Laskowski made a motion to approve the minutes of meeting conducted December 8, 2008 with a typo correction to 'Dunking' booth under item 8, also assigning *Arts and Crafts to Ms. Kathy Selko* under the same item. Ms. Selko seconded the motion. The motion passed with seven for, (Lindgren, Beehler, Perez, Brian, Swanson, Selko, and G. Laskowski) and two abstentions due to Ms. Kraemer and Ms. Johnson not attending the meeting. Ms. Laskowski was not present to vote.

Chairman Lindgren asked if there are no objections, she would like to move to item 12 due to the Liaison possibly leaving the meeting early and having information to present that pertain to agenda that will be later discussed.

## **12. Briefing by City Council Liaison.**

Councilwoman Dr. Riley reported on two items:

- City Council is working on the codification of the ordinances.
- Dog Park.

Councilwoman Riley received information and requirements on a Dog Park from Ms. Brenda Migrant, co-owner of 4-Paws. Concerns and suggestions were \$15,000 for one acre for the park plus additional land for parking and facilities, maintenance on a regular basis, adding the cost of sidewalks, restrooms, benches, and shading. The Commission stated a special committee would have to be selected to oversee the park.

Chairman Lindgren questioned the urgency of this item and stated P&R does not have the funds for the items that are currently needed.

## **4. Discussion on the Converse Lions Club Beer Contract.**

Chairman Lindgren proposed changing Agenda Item 4 to **Discussion and Appropriate Action on the Converse Lions Club Beer Contract**. The recording secretary replied changing an item on the agenda is not allowed. Chairman Lindgren said she verified and can make the change.

The Lions Club and P&R made the following contract suggestions:

- Mr. Fink suggested a \$1200 flat rate, give additional percentage of sales to the park, not to the general fund.
- Chairman Lindgren asked to change the contract dates to 2009 through 2014 and sell additional tickets at current year pre-sale price.
- Mr. Brien asked if P&R should stay consistent with the process the City Council uses to award a contract and allow other entities to compete for the contract.
- Ms. Laskowski replied P&R made known at the last meeting that anyone was welcome to bid on the contract. Chairman Lindgren agreed.

Mr. Beehler made a motion to accept the contract with the exception of the few changes we discussed. Mr. Laskowski seconded the motion. Chairman Lindgren reiterated the two changes to the contract are a five year contract with the years of 2009 through 2014 and item H on the pre-sale tickets. The motion to approve the Lions Club Beer contract passed unanimously.

## **5. Discussion on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.**

Chairman Lindgren said Mr. Hughes is looking for a more detailed master plan that includes logistics. Items of interest from the Commission are security cameras, security lighting, a parking lot, and a road for North Park. Chairman Lindgren asked members to think of items for a master plan and their priority to report next month.

## **6. Discussion of Developing a Dog Park.**

Item 6 was discussed with Item 12.

**7. Discussion of Creating a Position for a Parks Manager.**

Councilman Rodriguez explained in 2006 the median salary for a full-time recreational worker was \$20,470, parks manager would earn \$50,000. The responsibilities would include supervise work in the parks, prepare the park budget, give P&R budget briefings, patrol parks for violations, prepare Statement of Work, and serve as an administrator for city events.

Replies from the Commission were:

- City currently has staff responsible for the duties and P&R members to accomplish the work.
- Is hiring a parks manger where to spend money, or should the money go towards an employee for the Police Department and Fire Department or a vehicle for the Departments?
- Adding a salaried employee might postpone money spent on other issues as in sidewalks and bus covers.

**8. Discussion of a Haunted Hay Ride.**

Suggestions were to have the event around the City Park Lake, kick off the haunted hay ride at NIOC and continue through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Chairman Lindgren asked Mr. and Ms. Laskowski to put a master plan together. Mr. Laskowski asked for a budget.

**9. Discussion and Appropriate Action of an Easter Event.**

Ideas for an Easter event were to fly kites, Shakespeare in the Park, Easter parade, and work with the Fire-EMS Commission with a Pancake with the Easter Bunny Breakfast/Easter Egg Hunt. Mr. Brien was asked to look into open dates with the baseball organization. Chairman Lindgren will discuss the event with the Fire-EMS Commission.

Mr. Beehler made a motion to approve an Easter Event under the City Park Pavilion April 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed with nine in favor, Lindgren, Beehler, Perez, Brian, Swanson, Selko, S. Laskowski, and G. Laskowski, and Johnson. Ms. Kraemer was not in favor due to requested to discuss the event with the Fire-EMS Commission before setting the event.

**10. Discussion of Ordinance 303.**

SECTION II RESPONSIBILITIES was the focus of the discussion. Chairman Lindgren and Council Liaison Dr. Riley will meet with Mr. Hughes on January 13<sup>th</sup> before Ordinance 303 has to go back to the City Council for the second reading The commission was in agreement of removing Section II C, changing the Park Master Plan to be the responsibility of the Commission in Section II D, and change the date for the financial requirement submittal in Section II D.

**11. Discussion of NIOC 2009.**

Chairman Lindgren asked members who signed up for a large assignment to ask for help if needed. Each member will need to submit changes in the letters to the recording secretary. There will be no need to come back to the Commission for approval for each entertainment group as long as you stay within the entertainment budget.

Ms. Johnson resigned as of tonight due to accepting a job in Iraq.

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

- Haunted Hay Ride
- Easter Event
- Master Plan
- NIOC
- Invite Fire –EMS Commission to meeting in February

**14. Set Date and Time for Next Meeting – February 9, 2009.**

**15. Adjournment.**

Chairman Lindgren adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:17 P. M.