

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

A regular meeting of the Troy Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held Thursday, November 20, 2008 at the Troy Nature Center. Chairman, Tom Krent called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Gary Hauff, member  
Tom Krent, member  
Stuart Redpath, member  
Orestes Kaltsounis, member  
Stuart Alderman, staff  
Carol K. Anderson, staff  
Tod Gazetti, member  
Meaghan Kovacs, member  
Jan Zikakis, member  
Divya Subramanian, student representative  
Jeff Biegler, staff

Absent: Pauline Noce, Kathleen Fejes, Jeff Stewart

Visitors: Kristina Sabo, Stacey Yankee, Lori Bluhm, City Attorney

**Resolution # PR-2008-11-12**

Moved by Hauff

Seconded by Gazetti

RESOLVED, that the minutes from September 25, 2008 are approved as submitted.

Yes: All 7

MOTION CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Legal Update – Lori Bluhm, City Attorney reviewed the responsibilities of this board; the Sunshine Laws, FOIA, and the open meetings act.
- B. Troy Daze – Currently, expenses have exceeded revenue by \$34,636 for 2008. The Community Fair Fund (Troy Daze) is separate from Parks and Recreation. No funds allocated for Parks and Recreation are used for Troy Daze.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Park Naming, Section 36 – Some development of the park site located on Milverton has been completed. The parking lot is under construction. Benches have been installed and a path has been developed.

**Resolution # PR-2008-11-12**

Moved by Redpath

Seconded by Kovacs

RESOLVED, that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommends to City Council that the process for naming what is now known as Section 36 park be initiated.

Yes: All 7

MOTION CARRIED

- B. Adult Sports-Non Resident Report – As described in the spring, there is no limit to the number of non-residents allowed to participate in the leagues. Since this change, more than 300 non-residents participating in the adult leagues has generated an additional \$10,000. The two largest sports seeing an increase were soccer and summer softball.

**Member Comments:** Jan Zikakis inquired about reserving a room for the Evening Primrose group at the Community Center. The room reservation paperwork was turned in late and a room was not available. (Update: No space is available for the dates Jan requested).

Gary Hauff inquired about the resident next to Raintree Park that requested the screening. Carol Anderson explained that the expense for that planting was more than \$4,000 and landscaping was installed to provide full screening at the time of planting.

### **Staff Reports**

Directors Report – City Council was given a survey to complete regarding what services to consider cutting in order to reduce expenses. The survey was discussed with regards to those items that pertained to Parks and Recreation. The item listed “Operate the Nature Center as a park” was discussed.

### **Resolution #PR-2008-11-14**

Moved by Hauff

Seconded by Gazetti

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board understands that in this day of economic turmoil that City Council and management is projecting a deficit of five million dollars in the 2009-2010 budget year and;

Whereas, there is an understanding that the way the City does business will have to change, and

Whereas, the survey that was completed by the City Council suggests a number of potential new revenues be implemented and a number of expenses cut, one of which is operating the Nature Center as a park.

Whereas, our country is focused on green and environmental issues, and

Whereas, the Nature Center has been a key facility for environmental education since the 1970's, and

Whereas operating the Nature Center as a park would eliminate all nature based programs resulting in the loss of a key element of human understanding of the planet by Troy residents,

RESOLVED, That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board strongly recommends that the City Council not authorize staff to implement the operation of the Nature Center as a park.

Yes: All – 7

MOTION CARRIED

Recreation Report – There are two new gift cards that were developed to replace the gift certificate. One is for recreation and can be used at the Nature Center, Aquatic Center and the Community Center for any program or pass. The second card is for the golf courses and can only be used there.

Massage is now offered at the Community Center.

Parks Report – Section 36 park, on Milverton, will have 67 trees planted beginning November 24 from money received from the Community Development Block Grant. Benches will also be installed along a pathway that was constructed last summer and a playstructure is planned for that park.

Solar house is almost complete. Plumbers are working and plan to have it done by mid-December. When completed the solar house will be open for guided tours.

The park at the corner of Livernois and Town Center will have a shelter, benches, and a pathway. The shelter will be available for rental next summer. As a cost saving measure it is planned that perennials from around the City will be harvested and planted at that site.

The cost of renting a park shelter will increase in 2009. To rent a shelter for an entire day will be \$80, and a half day, either morning or afternoon, will be \$50. It is anticipated that revenues will increase by \$10,000 with this change.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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Tom Krent, Chairman

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Mary Williams, Recording Secretary