



Park Board Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Cultural Arts & Recreation Center

Park Board present: Beth Admire, Michael Auger, Pamela Ault, Ted Server

Staff present: Chip Orner-Interim Superintendent, Tena Stahlhut

Guests: Mayor Fred Paris, Teresa McClure-Executive Director of Boys & Girls Club of Franklin and Bill Green.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Pam Ault at 7:00 pm. Elizabeth Admire and Michael Auger were sworn in by Mayor Fred Paris as new members of the Franklin Park Board.

2. Election of officers

Nominations for President were Pam Ault and Ted Server. Pam Ault was elected 3 to 0. Ted Server was nominated for Vice President and was elected 3 to 0. Beth Admire was nominated for Secretary and was elected 3 to 0. Michael Auger was selected as representative to the Franklin Plan Commission.

President: Pam Ault

Vice President: Ted Server

Secretary: Beth Admire

Member: Mike Auger – Plan Commission representative

3. Announcements & Presentations

Chip Orner, Interim Superintendent displayed a plaque of appreciation that will be presented to Dr. William Province II for his years of service to the Franklin Park Board from 1983 – 2007.

Mayor Fred Paris directed the Park Board to review applications of potential candidates for the Superintendent position. The Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Franklin and the Franklin Senior Center Director along with one of their board members were asked to also review the applicants. He asked them to examine the eight applicants for the position and to give their top two or three recommendations and he would then make an appointment of a Superintendent for the department. An executive session was scheduled for Monday, January 28 at 7:00 pm at the Cultural Arts & Recreation Center for the committee to discuss their choice of recommended applicants.

4. Public Comments

Mr. Bill Green voiced his concern about Province Park being locked for the winter months. He felt the Park should be open on temperate days during those months.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. A motion was made by Ted Server and seconded by Pam Ault to approve the December 17, 2007 meeting minutes. The board unanimously approved.
- b. All claims were approved and signed.

6. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

7. New Business

a. Non-Reverting Operating (NRO) Fund Appropriation

Chip explained that each year, according to law, the Park Board must pass a resolution to appropriate funds for expenditure from the Park Non-Reverting Operating (NRO) account. He explained this account is the operating account the department utilizes for programs fees & charges, facility membership fees & charges, grant monies and donations. The purpose of this appropriation is to authorize the spending that occurs from this account for the purposes of recreation, athletic, special events and operating expenses associated with park programs and facilities. The appropriation amount requested for 2008 is \$500,000. A motion was made by Beth Admire and seconded by Ted Server to authorize the Parks & Recreation Department to spend money out the NRO account for operating expenses. The Board unanimously approved.

b. Boys & Girls Club Lease Renewal for 2008

Chip presented the lease agreement for the Wonder Five Center for the Boys & Girls Club of Franklin for board approval. Chip explained that there were two changes made to the lease agreement from previous years. (1) The \$1 charge for use of the WFC concession stand was eliminated. (2) A provision was added to revisit the partnership agreement with the Boys & Girls Club of Franklin no later than June 2008. He explained this was added so that we can begin discussions on how to strengthen our relationship with the Boys & Girls Club of Franklin and enhance youth programming throughout the city. A motion was made by Mike Auger and seconded by Beth Admire to accept the Boys & Girls Club lease as written. The Board unanimously approved.

8. Reports

a. Administration

1. Impact Fee Review Board Meeting

Chip informed the Park Board that he has had discussions with Clerk-Treasurer Janet Alexander about scheduling an organizational meeting for the Impact Fee Review Board in February. He explained that this is an annual organizational meeting of the Impact Fee Review Board and explained the role of this board. The Impact Fee Review Board consists of Jerry Ott, Jim McMillion and Tony Nally.

b. Recreation/Special Events

1. FCHS walking program

Chip reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding that the department signed with the Franklin Community School Corporation back in the fall of 2007. He explained that the school corporation was ready to open up the High School field house, indoor track for community use. A motion was made by Pam Ault and seconded by Beth Admire to work in cooperation with FCHS on a walking program at the FCHS field house. The Board voted 3 to 1 in favor of the motion, with Ted Server dissenting. The program will run from Feb. 1 through May 31, 2008. President Pam Ault asked for staff to submit a monthly report on this program beginning in February.

c. Parks/Facilities

1. Grant update for Historic Franklin Greenway Trail expansion

Chip stated the grant has been approved at the state level and is currently gaining approval at the federal level. Chip has been in contact with our grant contact at the Department of Natural Resources and expects official notification of the federal approval around the first of February. He has also been in contact with Nola Albreht with The Schneider Corporation for a status update. They are currently completing the Categorical Exclusion requirements of the grant and will be sending monthly status reports for the Board to review. Chip stated that we are still on schedule for the expansion project to begin this fall.

2. Blue Heron Park restroom construction project update

Chip reported on the status of the construction of the new restroom facility at Blue Heron Park. He has spoken with Michael Weathers, President of the Franklin Lakes Homeowners Association, about the facility and the extensive landscaping being planned. Mr. Weathers voiced concerns that they had not been notified back in the fall of the planned facility before the construction commenced. There will be two trail extensions leading to the facility from the current trail and from the parking lot.

3. Heating units at Cultural Arts & Recreation Center

Chip informed the Board that two heating units at the Cultural Arts & Recreation Center have had compressors rebuilt by Jay Rushton, Facilities Maintenance Director for the Fitness Room and Preschool Room.

d. Senior Center

1. Senior Board representative for United Way

Chip explained the background and working arrangement between the Franklin Senior Center and the Franklin Senior Board Inc. United Way of Johnson County has awarded the Franklin Senior Board Inc. an allocation of approximately \$16,500. One of the requirements for the Franklin Senior Board Inc. to receive the funds is to have a member of the Parks and Recreation staff attend their monthly board meetings. The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Chip Orner as representative to their board.

e. Financial report

Chip explained to the Board the new format that financial information will be presented to the Park Board. He explained the Board received very little financial updates in the past and needed regular financial updates to make good sound decisions when items are brought before the Board for approval. The Board will now be reviewing/approving the following financial reports each month: Park Non-Reverting Operating account monthly financial report, Park Appropriated Budget monthly financial report and the Park Impact Fee financial report.

Chip explained to the Board that the staff has spent the month of January evaluating every process and procedure in the department to find ways of being more efficient in providing our services to the community. He then explained in detail the Park Non-Reverting Operating accounts and financial report. He also discussed ways of converting the department's facilities to operate more self-sufficient instead of relying on our appropriated budget to operate facilities that are capable of generating enough revenue to pay for their operations. He explained that our facilities have not operated under this philosophy in the past but felt this was important to maintain our good financial position as a department and still continue to provide high quality services to the community.

Chip reviewed the Park Impact Fee financial report with the Board and explained the Park Impact Fee law.

Chip reviewed with the Board two upcoming projects that may be ready for discussion at the February meeting. He explained the pool floor is scheduled to be renovated this year. Staff will be soliciting more quotes from companies that specialize in swimming pools to compare estimates for the job. The other project is the painting of the gymnasium at the Wonder Five Center. Staff will be coordinating with the Boys & Girls Club of Franklin staff on scheduling the work and working with local contractors to get additional estimates on the project.

9. Park Board Comments

A motion was made by Ted Server and seconded by Beth Admire for the Franklin Memorial Swimming Pool to open on Saturday, May 24, 2008 for the season. The Board unanimously approved.

Ted Server commented that the Board meeting was excellent.

Both Beth Admire and Mike Auger expressed their appreciation for being named to the Park Board.

10. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mike Auger and seconded by Beth Admire to adjourn the meeting with no further business to discuss. The Board unanimously approved.

Next meeting: Monday, February 18, 2008