



MINUTES
December 12, 2008 - 6:30 PM

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
5300 Main Street * Room D
Rowlett, Texas 75088

PRESENT: Wayne Baxter, Lonnie Cornwell, Robert Kittrell, Ken Romaine, Norman Tsao, Jeff Jenkins, Karen Scholz, Ron Miller, Sonja Sackor, Debby Bobbitt

ABSENT: Norman Scown

STAFF: Tim Hightshoe, Interim Parks & Recreation Director;
Dianne Zachary, Sr. Administrative Assistant

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Chairman Baxter.
2. The minutes of the November 12, 2008 meeting were unanimously approved as presented after a motion by Karen Scholz that was seconded by Robert Kittrell.
3. Chairman selected voting alternates Ronald Miller and Sonja Sackor in the absence of Norman Scown and Debby Bobbitt, who arrived late)
4. Bill Hersch, HNTB Architectural Historian and Coyle House Project Facilitator led a discussion concerning the Coyle House move. Mr. Hersch explained the site has been declared an historical site by the Texas Historical Society and must be replicated exactly as it was on the original site. The City has three years to begin restoration work on the 1918 Coyle House once the move is complete, and must complete the restoration within 24 months after it is begun.

Nineteen trees will be lost, including one large 39" pecan tree will be removed in order to comply with state regulations for reconstructing the site in exact measurements to the original. Five other pecans will be relocated in the park and the remainder are hackberries and Bois d'arcs. Lonnie Cornwell questioned the loss of the huge pecan tree, and asked if there was any possible way it could be saved. Mr. Hersch assured the Board the tree could not be saved, but agreed to check to see if the tree could be cut down in such a way that it could be used to make park benches. Mr. Cornwell suggested the benches be sold to the public to honor loved ones or just to dedicate to the park.

Target date for moving the house is January 21st.

5. Wayne Baxter discussed senior programming and senior programming possibilities for possible recommendations. Two seniors, Larry Beckham and Marvin Overstreet, addressed the Board to share their opinions of the current situation for seniors at the RCC.

Staff explained that seniors have refused 2 proposals for a site for them to meet on a regular basis, and the facility subcommittee for the bond election has talked with the senior board about a new Senior Center. The city spends approximately \$400 per senior for the \$5.00 fee they pay for yearly membership. Staff is working to provide "dedicated time" at the RCC for seniors every day.

Ken Romaine suggested an elevator could be installed in the current RCC that is vacuum operated and would be a viable option to allow the seniors to use Room E downstairs that has its own kitchen. Ron Miller offered to have someone look at the possibility of an elevator.

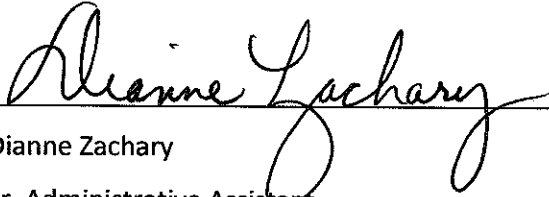
Mr. Beckham explained that the seniors gave a list of activities they wanted to have to Sandy Beffa, Program Coordinator for the RCC. Heath explained that Sandy is the program coordinator for all age groups, not just the seniors.

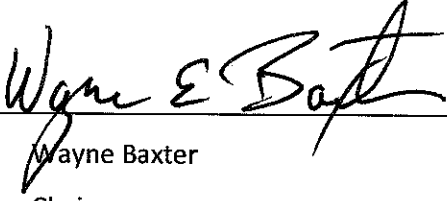
Mr. Overstreet told the board there are 884 paid senior members, and they need a place to meet.

A possible joint meeting with the Senior Advisory Board was also discussed.

(A break was taken at 7:40 p.m., and the meeting resumed at 7:54 p.m.)

6. Discussion to formulate recommendations for the bond subcommittees was led Wayne Baxter.
- Ron Miller would like to investigate the feasibility of modifying the RCC with an elevator so the seniors can use the downstairs area for their activities. His estimate for the installation was \$1/4 million.
 - Debby Bobbitt indicated the KRB has classes in Room E and there was plenty of space. She agreed that would be a good location for the seniors if it was accessible to them.
 - Norman Tsao requested an occupancy report for the group.
 - Bob Kittrell stated that Rowlett is not competitive with area towns that provide many amenities for their seniors. He also thinks our undeveloped parks need to be
7. Public Announcement. Members of the Board and/or staff may make announcements of local civic events. No member of the board or commission may discuss nor take any action with regard to the announcements.
8. Members of the Board may request topics for future agenda meetings. No member of the board or commission may discuss any of the requested subjects until such matters have been properly placed on a posted agenda.
9. Adjournment.


Dianne Zachary
Sr. Administrative Assistant


Wayne Baxter
Chairman