

WUP Parks and Recreation Board

MINUTES

OCTOBER 12, 2016

6:30PM

REC CENTER – CONFERENCE ROOM

TYPE OF MEETING	Monthly Meeting
CHAIR	Kevin Boyle
SECRETARY	David DeAnda
ATTENDEES	Kevin Boyle, Melissa Pifko, Mark Prescott, David DeAnda, Tracy Larson, Peter Billipp and David Jennings, Councilmember Mardi Turner, Susan White and Tim O'Connor
VISITORS	Michele Nezi-Marvin, 2016 Boo Run Race Director & WUP resident and Alida Drewes, WUP resident

I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm by Board Chair Kevin Boyle.

II. **Approval of May 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Motion to approve the May 18, 2016 Parks Board Meeting Minutes was made by Mark Prescott and Seconded by Melissa Pifko. Motion passed unanimously.

III. **Public Comments:** Chairman Boyle invited Michele Nezi-Marvin, 2016 Boo Run Race Director to address the Parks Board. Michele thanked the board for the opportunity to address them. Michele presented a brief overview that included the following points:

- Race will be conducted on Saturday, October 29. There is a 5K (8:00am) and Kids 1 Mile Fun Run (8:45am).
- 645 entries as of 10/12. Expectation is that total registration will exceed last year's registration of 1,006.
- The City assumed the "event host" responsibilities after the WUE PTO determined their Fall calendar was much too full to continue hosting this popular event. All race proceeds will be dedicated to the WUP Parks and Recreation Department. Estimated net revenue is approximately \$20K to \$25K.
- Michele called for volunteers from the Parks Board to assist with race logistics on the morning of the 29th, from 6:30am until 9:00am. Kevin offered to send out the request with a link to the Volunteer Registration Website to the full Board.

Alida Drewes addressed the board stating that the May 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes did not accurately reflect her comments. (Note: Back in March of 2016, when Ms. Drewes made a similar statement in respect to the accuracy of the minutes, Chairman Boyle invited Ms. Drewes to submit her statements to the Parks Board in writing, specifically to insure accuracy, Ms. Drewes refused to exercise that option).

IV. **Friends Overview.** Mark Prescott stated that the Friends meeting was cancelled due to the HISD holiday. Mark said that the Fathers & Flashlights event went well but that the intent of the event may need to be communicated in the future as some of the kids were somewhat unruly and that increased police presence may be needed for next year. Mark also gave a brief status update on the plans for Liberty Hill. Friends plans to pay for the refurbishment

and he hopes to provide more details at the next meeting.

- V. **Fee Schedule.** Tim recommended that a fee sub-committee be established that would include a member of the Senior Board and Friends Board. Council Member Turner stated that any fee increase recommendations, if any, would be needed by City Council by August. Kevin asked that anyone interested in participating let him know.
- VI. **Board Member Updates.** Kevin asked the Board for any relevant updates. Mark Prescott stated that there had been an issue with a swing at Weir Park that had been fixed quickly. Melissa Pifko made a comment regarding the usage of the West-side of Colonial Park and asked what could be done to increase usage. Tim stated that usage had not been significant but that efforts to advertise it would continue. Mark Prescott suggested that a community event be planned to increase visibility of the improvements such as a cook-out focused on first responders.
- VII. **Council Update.** Council Member Turner stated the Council was currently working on the budget. Council hope to pass budget next week and then tackle the tax rate thereafter. She noted that Tim O'Connor would be stepping down from his position and Susan White should be stepping in as his replacement (needs official approval by Council). Tim to be involved in the Park's Department until February 2017 to help with the transition. Susan will replace Tim as the liaison to the Park's Board.
- Director Update.** Tim turned it over to Susan White to update the Board. Susan gave an update on Hughes Park. Stated that the last meeting was on September 29th and that it went well, met with all the immediate neighbors to discuss their concerns. Next meeting is scheduled for October 25th where the initial concept for the park will be presented. Susan also discussed the upcoming Boo Run that has previously been addressed as well as the asp issue (venomous caterpillar) that had been encountered at Weir Park and graffiti issues at Whit Johnson. It was recommended that the information regarding the asp issue should be distributed or posted as parks to ensure that the community was aware of the potential danger.
- VIII. **Parks Master Planning Issue.** Tim stated that most of the focus was on Hughes Park. Kevin asked about other goals of master plan and Tim discussed the parks that would be addressed next. He stated that the amount of the Friends Board request for Whit Johnson is not known so that may delay what happens. He stated that funding from Harris County may be an option.
- IX. **New Business.** None
- X. **Adjournment/Closed Session.** Regular meeting convened at 7:26 pm and Park's Board went into a closed session.

The next Parks Board meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2016 @ 6:30 pm.