

**The Hills Park and Nature Trail Commission Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2009**

Meeting commenced at 1pm.

In Attendance: Bruce Warmuth, Dwyce Ratliff, Jane Hines, Kelly Terry, Ron Dodd, Scott Feil and Mary Ann Grimes taking minutes.

March meeting minutes approved.

Treasure's Report: Dwyce provided members copies of a "Village of the Hills Park Budget 2008-2009" spread sheet which was done by Chris at The Hills office. The spread sheet was to show what we have remaining in the budget for this year and to give us a better understanding of how we need to adjust the budget for the next fiscal year. It was suggested that we add and re-label categories to reflect repairs, which is now under miscellaneous category, non-recurring expenses, and a Supply category for items such as toilet paper and one specific to the Ice Cream Social. This year we have spent a lot of money on repairs which will continue to be a standing expense. We have also spent \$200 for mowing for a one time event. Scott said that we should divide the budget into operations (with accounting lines for the recurring and the one time or emergency categories), capital improvements for items such as leveling the field, etc. and the category for gifts and expenditures related to gifts.

Dwyce also provided copies of a list of "Designated Park Donations" which showed a total of \$1000 that is available. Some of the funds are for specific items such as soccer goals which is in memoriam of the Murray family. Also, funding is available for replacement for crepe myrtles. Kelly Terry has agreed to purchase the new soccer goals as soon as the store restocks this item. Funding will come from the donations. Currently the MUD holds this money in the general fund.

Remaining funds as of 4/14/09 are \$12,167.26 from a total budget of \$26,490.

Scott has volunteered to help with managing and refining the budget for the future.

Old Business: The soil around the rope near the rock climbing wall continues to erode. Scott will remove the rope for now and take pictures of the area to see if the erosion continues to increase over the next month. Scott suggested that since there are several items that still need discussion in this area it would be easier and more appropriate if we move our next meeting, weather permitting, to The Park. A vote to move the meeting was taken and approved.

- **Rock Repositioning:** Three rocks are still waiting to be moved. They are too heavy to be moved manually. Kelly suggested that they be moved closer to the play-scape. We will make a decision at the next meeting when we are in The Park.
- **Dog Dispenser:** Scott has the dispenser and will install it on the north side of The Park. Alma, who ordered the dog kit, has already paid for this item.

- **Mulch:** Once we get the mulch it will be installed in the playscape area.
- **Trash Can:** The purchase of a new trash can has been put on hold for now as the cost will be \$450 for one can.
- **Photos of The Park for the Ice Cream Social:** Bruce has volunteered to take photos of everything for a display board at the Ice Cream Social. The Ice Cream Social is now officially scheduled for Sunday, October 18, 2009. We also need to get a volunteer to take photos of the events during the Ice Cream Social.

New Business: Rick consulted with Jason at The Hills golf course about the method needed to level the soccer/ playing field. The order would be to first kill the current grass/weeds, level the designated area, bring in sand and soil and seed with Bermuda. Comments were made that this is a worthwhile project that could be done for next spring. Kelly noticed that there was a tree that may be down and it could be a safety hazard. Scott will take a look and also remove a pile of brush near the picnic table.

Diane submitted an estimate for the landscaping near the slide. The total came to \$1,800 which included labor and materials. Ron suggested that we get another bid before beginning work and that we ought to research and know if there is a policy or regulation that mandates more than one bid if a purchase/contract exceeds a certain amount. He also suggested that fundraising efforts be implemented for future improvements to The Park. Scott has volunteered along with Chris to review The Park and The Hills rules and regulations to see if there are already applicable ones on the books.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50pm

Next meeting to be held May 12th, 2009 1PM at The Hills Park.

Rick Zehrer, Chair for The Park and Nature Trail Commission

Mary Ann Grimes, Secretary