

The Hills Park and Nature Trail Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 8th 2010

In Attendance: Scott Feil, Betty Ann Courtney, Josh Avigael, Rick Zehrer, Bruce Warmuth, Dave Anderson, Jennifer Paul, Peter Gomes , Alma Wood, and Mary Ann Grimes

Meeting commenced at 1pm at The Hills Park and Nature Trail grounds with Scott Feil presiding and Mary Ann Grimes taking minutes.

Welcome: An introduction of Alma Wood was made by Scott Feil to the commission members. Alma works in the MUD office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and handles internal auditing for the Village of The Hills. Alma passed out copies of the Village of The Hills Expense Statement form and the Texas Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certification. She also emailed copies to all the commission members for their use while serving as a member to The Park Commission. Alma has in the past been very instrumental in her communicating and coordinating items between The Park Commission, MUD, Village of the Hills, and especially with Florentino who maintains the grounds.

Motion to approve January minutes was made and they were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Josh reported that none of our expenses for the month of February have been paid to date. All expenses from January including utilities and landscaping have been paid. We are expecting a bill from Cooper's Plumbing for repairs done this month to the restroom toilets and water fountains. The restrooms have been temporarily locked and a sign has been posted that they are "closed." Unfortunately, there was some damage to the water fountains due to the extreme cold weather and also to the toilets. In addition the toilets were also found to have rocks thrown into the basins which are plugging up the lines. Coopers will be repairing this month. Payment will come from either/both the vandalism fund or the emergency fund.

Old Business

- **Changing Table:** Betty Ann ordered the changing table and has it stored it in the shed until we can install it in the ladies restroom. The total cost for the table came to \$200.18.
- **Newspaper Article:** Bruce presented an article from the local Rollingwood community newspaper which noted their plans to install five exercise stations around their park walking path. The article says that their estimated expense to complete this project is \$10,000. It was noted that our commission did this same five station project for several thousand less.

New Business

- **Walking Tour of Park**—Conducted by Scott Feil
 - **Security**—Storeroom key location was shown to members
 - **Maintenance**
 - **Water shutoff location**—The water shutoff for the whole restroom building was identified. Its location is between the pavilion and restroom building near landscaping. In order to turn off water the handle must be turned counterclockwise. It was also noted that the restroom building has 2 exterior faucets hose bibs, one on either side of the building. Both of these need to be drained for extreme freezing weather.
 - **Power shutoff location**
 - **Irrigation Boxes**—Located in the storage area of the restroom building are two sets of keys. One is for the irrigation control boxes. One box controls the athletic field and playscape area. The other box is located near the flowerbed and stop sign at the park entrance and controls the area at the front of the park and butterfly garden. The other key is for the dog bag dispensers. There are two dispensers in the park, one on either end.
 - **Areas for Maintenance/improvement**
 - **Tree Signage**—A few of the signs need maintenance as they appear to have been chewed on by an animal.
 - **Retaining Wall for playscape**—The retaining wall surrounding the playscape and holding in the gravel is bowing out and needs to be reinforced.
 - **Playscape staining**—Wooden parts of playscape need restaining and parts need to be checked for safety.
 - **Slide fall area**—The gravel at the bottom of the slide at the climbing wall gets compacted and needs to be dug up and re-graveled. Climbing wall “rocks” need checking to see if they are loose and need re-tightening. The allen wrench for this job is located in the shed.
 - **Drainage course rock lining**—The “rock river” near playscape need cleaning up.
 - **“Dry Pond” area**—Clean-up this area by removing some of the rocks and cutting brush will improve this area and make it look better.
 - **Northwest area of park**—Clean-up of brush at the outside/Serene Hills area needs to be done and possibly add some landscaping. Need to check on irrigation. This could be done at the same time as the field.
 - **Soccer goals**—Soccer goal needs repair. Measurements are 10x6x5 and made of PVC piping. Scott will check on this job.
 - **Discussion of Spring Clean-up**
 - **Proposed dates**—Scott proposed April 9th as a Spring Clean-Up Day. He proposed that we have teams from the

community/Friends of the Park sign up for specific projects and to get the MUD to help with the larger rocks.

- **Items to address**—Surveillance cameras were identified. Back gate code was noted. Repair some of the plant signage and possibly add some “no golf-carts” signs.
- **List of materials/labor needed and assignment of responsibilities**—Please think about what items we need to fix up the park and what jobs each of us would like to tackle.
- **Discussion of involvement of Friends of the Park**
 - **Clean-up “work party/meet and greet”**---We would like to make the clean-up day more fun by adding coffee and doughnuts or lunch for the volunteers. Jennifer suggested that we invite Sam Barclay to be a “Friend.”
 - **Involvement in ICS**—It was suggested that we come up with a proposed date for the next ICS which does not conflict with other community events. Also, to consider our involvement with the POA again and whether we want to go back to the regular ICS theme instead of Hills Fest. Also, who will head this years ICS??

Other Business: Next time, which hopefully there won't be, a letter goes missing from the entrance sign, we will change the sign completely and paint the letters instead of replacing.

Next meeting will be **March 8th, 1PM**

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM

Scott Feil, Chair for The Hills Park and Nature Trail Commission

Mary Ann Grimes, Secretary

