

THE HILLS PARK COMMISSION REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – MAY, 2014

The May meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Linda Water Nelson at 1:05 pm.

In attendance: Pattye Ward, Anne Hewgley, Janis Clements, Linda Water Nelson, Eric Ovlen, Gail Oberta, Robert Smith, Steve Pavlas (new member)

Minutes:

The minutes of the April meeting were reviewed and approved.

Treasurers' Report:

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

Old Business:

1. Work at the dry creek area: The discussion was tabled pending receipt of a bid from Florentino.
2. Dog Park Update: Eric reviewed information gathered since our last meeting. He received some preliminary information from both Bee Cave and Lakeway Recreation staff. He will follow up with a meeting with a Lakeway representative in early June, and anticipates a meeting with Bee Cave staff.
Eric reviewed information gathered to date. He indicated that a lesson learned from the Bee Cave planning is for us to carefully assess the cost/benefit ratio as we move forward. He summarized information about liability that included awareness that the developer/manager of a dog park is usually not liable for damages unless the organization was negligent and/or created the liability. There is also the potential for liability if the organization creates rules but they are not enforced or the organization is negligent in following up on complaints.
Eric presented a written summary of his findings to date and outlined next steps, including that he continues with his information gathering. In addition, he suggested that the Commission define the scope of the project and "market" it as such to the community. This would include describing the project as a dog play area rather than dog park. He suggested that early on we assess the cost/benefit of the project and get community input. The Commission members agreed that the role of the Commission is to coordinate community input prior to any formal proposals
Linda suggested that, going forward, we begin to use consistent descriptive language to define the project. Both "Play Yard" and "Off-Leash Play Area" were suggested.
Further discussions will continue once Eric completes his research.
Commission members thanked Eric for his diligent work on this project.
3. Commission Membership: Steve Pavlas was presented as a new Commission member. He introduced himself and spoke about his background and his interest in being involved in our community and especially with the Park, as he and his family are frequent users of Park facilities. The Commission agreed that Steve will be an asset to our group; his membership

will be presented to the BoA for ratification. Linda indicated that our Commission may have nine members and we now have all available slots filled. However, she encouraged members to continue to seek out interested community members to fill future openings.

4. Hillsfest: Discussion was tabled until the next meeting to receive the report on possible dates from Chairman Dave.

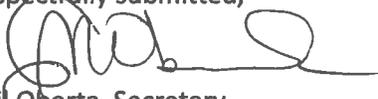
New Business:

1. Janis received a suggestion that we consider resurfacing the basketball court. The surface is at least ten years old and may require maintenance. Steve volunteered to assess the surface and review with Josh, then report back at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Pattye moved and Janis seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Gail Oberta, Secretary

