

**The Hills Park and Nature Trail Commission
Meeting Minutes September 8th, 2009**

In Attendance: Rick Zehrer, Dwyce Ratliff, Bruce Warmuth, Diane Thompson, Adrienne Peters, Jane Hines, Robert Dodd, Josh Avigael, Scott Feil and Mary Ann Grimes

Meeting commenced at 1:05pm with Rick Zehrer presiding as president and Mary Ann Grimes taking minutes.

August minutes approved and signed.

Treasurer's Report: Dwyce reported that \$6,018.56 remain in the funds for The Park. We still have one more month's bills to be paid from that amount. There was a large water bill of \$828 for the month of August plus an additional \$700 for repairs to the sprinkler system paid since last month. Sprinkler system is now working as it should be and the watering schedule has been changed to reflect the current phase 2 watering guidelines. The budget was successfully presented to the BOA at their last meeting. There will be fewer funds allocated to The Park for the next fiscal year.

Old Business:

- **Mulch Spreading:** Josh, Scott and Rick recently got together to spread the mulch and were able to get approximately half of the mulch down. Plans to get together to complete the job will be coordinated through email.
- **Signs for trees/plants on Nature Trail:** The signs have been put up around the trail and are looking good. Rick and Scott will add/replace the bolts to secure the signs as needed. Funding for this project is a combination of donations from our "Friends of the Park" and Park funds. Expenses were \$264 for the signs and Stokes Signs donated \$80 toward this project. Bruce has volunteered to take photos of the signs and our other projects for a display at the Ice Cream Social.
- **Grill for the pavilion:** Approval for purchase of the new grill was passed. Josh is ordering the grill. Expenses will be \$487+ \$175 shipping. It was agreed to have it delivered to Alma.
- **Staining kiddie Playscape:** There are some worn areas that need staining on the newer playscape. Park commission members will agree on a time/date to get together to do the staining and spreading the mulch.

New Business:

- **Commercial use of Park and Nature Trail:** As per the current rules, "Commercial entities may not reserve the Park" The BOA will be meeting Thursday, Oct. 10th at 10am to discuss current rules and use of The Park. Scott Feil plans to attend. This meeting is for a fact finding session. Currently, The Park Commission agrees that the rule should remain unchanged.
- **Use of Park by contractors:** The current rules state "Whoever has legal access to The Hills, has use of The Park and its facilities." Rick plans to check with Alma

to see if there is a problem with contractors leaving a mess. Unfortunately, this is an issue that can't be controlled.

- **Ice Cream Social:** Planning this event has begun. Games2U has been booked as well as Hoppin House. It was decided to pay these two vendors out of this year's fund as soon as possible. Bruce volunteered to assemble/design a large sign with photos of The Park and the changes and projects that were done. This will be displayed at the pavilion during the social. Diane and Adrienne volunteered to purchase the ice cream and toppings. Jane volunteered to call Serene Hills to get approval for parking and to check into getting a tax-free account at Costco for The Park to make purchases. She is also calling the local high school to request volunteers to work/supervise the games the day of the ICS and to inquire whether we can get a few basketball players from LTHS to play with the younger kids on the court. Rick will coordinate with Alma to have the park mowed on the park grounds and along the fence at Serene Hills. He is also checking into getting the freezer from The Club. Diane's husband, Ben will either use his personal golf cart or The Club's larger cart as parking shuttle. He will also be available to run the shuttle service. Josh volunteered to take the signs to Stokes to have the date changed and to order a new sign listing the names of the "Friends of the Park" and anyone who donates to the ICS. Mary Ann will call the donors from last year to see if they will be willing to donate again. She will also order the prizes from Oriental Trading Co. There will be emails sent out via Joy Hrobak to ask for volunteers and to inform our community of this event.

Other Business to come before the Commission: Please keep in mind the agendas for the November meeting in which we will discuss commission terms that will end and names of possible replacements.

Josh reported witnessing the tether ball being attacked by a pit bull dog that lives near The Park. This is apparently the second time. The ball was only just replaced by Josh a few days earlier. Calls will be made to the police and to the Constable to see what can be done. At this time we still need a new tether ball.

Next meeting will be October 13th, 2009, 1:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm

Rick Zehrer, Chair for The Hills Park and Nature Trail Commission

Mary Ann Grimes, Secretary