

THE HILLS PARK COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING--Monday, March 14, 2016

In attendance: Gary Weldon, Pattye Ward, Pat Zepp, Jim Morter, Allan Hitchcock, George Spencer, Joe Middlebrook, Dan Kelley, Pam Ovlen, and Eric Ovlen (acting BOA Liaison)

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Gary Weldon, Chair. He welcomed Joe Middlebrook and Dan Kelley to their first meeting. The commission members were reminded that the regular meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m. in the MUD conference room.

Minutes

A motion was moved by Pat and seconded by Allan to approve the minutes from February 8, 2016.

Treasurer's Report

Pat presented the current budget and noted that the water charges are over budget. There were no new expenditures, as all payments were by contract. All sponsorships from last fall's HillsFest have now been collected. A motion was made by Pam and seconded by Pattye to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business

Park Permits

Jim reported that the park permit process is now complete. The only change made was that people will pay on application rather than on approval, as suggested by Pat at the last meeting. The proposed permit has been sent to the BOA for their approval.

Joe asked how people will know about the permit process. Pat said that the rules will be posted on the sign between the park restrooms and they will tell people that they need to see Megan in the office to get their permit. Pam will add this to information for Angie to put in the newsletter. Once the rules are ready to post, Pam will also help decorate the bulletin board.

Review of the park walk through

Pat reviewed several maintenance issues with Linda:

Linda found two heavy duty soap dispensers to replace the broken ones in the two restrooms for \$45 each. Gary moved that we have Linda purchase them, and the motion was seconded by Joe.

The hose nozzle is still being worked on. There is a question of whether we need to invest in a new one as only the end was cut off. Jim suggested that maybe we need to keep the hose locked up when not in use in order to avoid further damage.

There was no information on the light bulb replacement. It has been noted that there is more than the one we noticed on the walk through that needs to be replaced. Pat will find out if they are motion activated or solar so we know what kind we need.

Pat discovered that the painting of the pavilion and playground equipment is not included in the regular maintenance program. Gary mentioned that we can either schedule a work day for the commission or pay to have it done. Dan suggested that we get a bid from Main Street Painting and that he will ask them for one. Pat suggested that we get a separate bid on the playground.

The garbage bag issue has been resolved by the maintenance staff.

The landscaping crew said that they had cut the suckers on the oak trees, but they will add that to their July to do list.

Jim will work with Melvin on the slide issues.

Jim and Gary will work on getting instructions made for the exercise stations.

Park Memorials

Gary said that the implementation of memorial benches is in process. Also, he mentioned that a tree has been recently planted in the park as a memorial. There is some fencing around the tree to keep the deer out.

New Business

Oak Wilt

Eric reported that Rollingwood has a problem with oak wilt and they are arranging for a regional group to deal with it. They are looking at coming up with a county wide proposal, and the county may have some funds to help with it. Currently The Hills has one active case of oak wilt on Chameleon Court, near where there was a 2004 infestation. In April and May arborists hired by the BOA will check all trees in The Hills.

JazzFest

Some members of the commission went to the Brass House in Austin, where they made contact with the club's owner Jason White. He told them that he will help sponsor our JazzFest. Patty and Gary will meet with him this week to plan.

Gary asked for someone to take on having the signs for the Jazz Fest made by Stokes Company. Joe and Dan agreed to do this.

There was discussion on the best day of the week and time for the Jazz Fest, and it was decided that it will be held Sunday, April 24 from 4-7 p.m. Pam will send that date to Angie to put in the newsletter.

HillsFest

Pattye said the date for this fall's HillsFest will be Sunday, October 16. Pam will ask Angie to put a "Save the Date" in the newsletter. Pattye asked the commission members to start thinking of sponsors, who support it at \$300 each.

Rules Signage

Eric mentioned that he is not sure on the overlap of signage responsibility between the BOA and the POA. There is a signage committee on the POA. The issue needs coordinating, starting with Angie and Anne Hewgley. Pat will proceed with language on the proposed signs, assisted by Jim on the group activity reservations wording. They will send this information to the BOA for approval before their next meeting on April 14.

BOA Report

On our question of restricting alcohol use in the park, Dan Roark, the Village Administrator, checked with the attorney. He suggested that, since there has not been any problem on this subject, don't create one. Beyond that, it is our decision. The BOA doesn't make suggestions. It is up to the Park Commission to give them proposals.

The BOA is formulating the idea of a Youth Advisory Commission of 9th to 12th graders in The Hills. The concept is to build community leaders and to help us know what's going on with the youth in our community. Its members would be approved by the BOA and would ultimately report to them. The Park Commission is being asked to partner with the BOA in the formative stage. We can use the newsletter to announce this, as well as getting a target list from Angie of households with kids in this age group. George said that we need to find a way for all kids who want to join to be invited. Joe said we should get word out to the 8th graders at Hudson Bend, the middle school where all Hills kids go. Pattye said this would be a great group to help with HillsFest.

Eric announced that this will be George's last Park Commission meeting, as he has been appointed to the BOA.

Next meeting: Monday, April 11 at 4:00 p.m. in the MUD conference room

Adjournment: A motion was made by Pat, seconded by Pattye, and passed to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Ovlen

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Pam Ovlen', written in a cursive style.