

THE HILLS PARK COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING--Monday, September 12, 2016

In attendance: Gary Weldon, Pattye Ward, Pat Zepp, Pat Younger, Allan Hitchcock, Dan Kelley, Pam Ovlen, Robert Smith, BOA Liaison, Angie Thielemans, POA Liaison, Eric Ovlen, Village of the Hills Mayor, and Josh Avigael, POA Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Gary Weldon, Chair. Gary introduced Josh and Angie and welcomed them to the meeting.

Minutes

Pat Zepp asked that the minutes be changed to show that she was not involved in the process of getting the painting proposal included in our budget requests for next year, as she was out of town, and this was handled by Gary and Beth. Pam will change the minutes to reflect this. It was noted that the budget is still in the proposal stage until the BOA meeting on Wednesday, and the painting is included in it.

A motion was made by Allan and seconded by Pat Zepp to approve the minutes with the change noted.

Treasurer's Report

Pat reported that there is nothing surprising. Water and sewage charges have been running 10% higher all year, and this increase is included in the new budget.

A motion was made by Allan and seconded by Pattye to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business

Open Meeting Certification

Gary reminded Commission members that they need to complete the Open Meeting certification online.

Painting Proposal

Dan has proposals and will try to get one more.

Dog Park

Pam presented a proposed shortened survey to hand out at HillsFest. It was approved with a grammar correction suggested by Pat Younger. They will be handed out at a table close to the proposed dog park area. Gary and Pattye will bring clipboards to use with the questionnaires.

### Park Repairs

Gary has an Eagle Scout contact who is interested in taking care of the erosion on one side of the slide. Pattye asked that it be fixed by HillsFest, as the slide is likely to get a lot of use that day. Gary, with Joe and Dan's help, will try to get the scouts to complete the project by that date. If they are not able to do that, we can station someone at the slide to ask them not to use that one side.

### Exercise Stations

Deferred until next year. Josh noted that he has seen regular use of the bench near the field and the pull-up stations.

### Driveway Erosion

The area eroded from the rains has been filled in. We will be paying for it next month. Robert noted that this erosion occurs every time we have a big rain--once every 2-3 years. Gary suggested that we could possibly put in some French drains, which Pat Zepp said should be done by next spring.

### New Business

#### HillsFest

Angie reported that a "Save the Date" email will be going out to Hills residents this week. She reminded Commissioners that the deadline to get sponsors is this Friday, September 16. After that date, sponsors names won't be on the banners, as we want these up 3 weeks before the event. Late sponsors will still receive the 2 free ads in the newsletter and a table and chairs at HillsFest, if they want. Also, Gary will announce the names of all sponsors at HillsFest. Checks should be made payable to The Village of the Hills. Angie will send out the names of both in kind and paying sponsors procured so far.

Pattye noted some changes this year. There will be 2 face painters, as there were long lines for this last year. There will be a new concept for a bounce house--a 78 foot long obstacle course that will accommodate 100 kids per hour. Also, popcorn and cotton candy have been added to the food lineup. We are going for a "Village Fair" concept. Certificates will be sent to volunteers after the event.

The club will be donating \$1000 worth of prizes for the raffle, including items from the World of Tennis and golf shops, meals, spa treatments, and gift certificates from personal trainers.

Pam said that the bullhorn was not audible last year and we need a microphone for announcements at the event. Angie will look into renting, or possibly purchasing, one.

Pat Zepp mentioned the pumpkin shortage this year and suggested that kids could paint rocks or gourds, if we aren't able to get enough pumpkins.

Allan asked what our plan is in case of rain, and Pattye said the event would have to be postponed.

Specific duties for Commissioners:

Allan: Drive a golf cart, along with Bill Zepp

Pat Zepp: Draw up map of areas for each Commissioner to cover to put flyers in mailboxes the Sunday before the event

Photograph kids with the scarecrow

Contact LTISD about using the Serene Hills Elementary School parking lot

Joe and Dan: Hang banners (the teens can help and you supervise)

Gary: MC

Jim: Make signs for each station and help rope off the dog park area with Pam--  
Pattye will ask him

Pam: Rope off the dog park area with Jim and make a sign for it

Host the Canine Center for Training and Behavior

Put out dog water bowls

Handle dog costume contest

Man the dog table, giving out questionnaires and registering the dogs with numbers for the dog costume contest

Everyone: Put flyers in your area mailboxes on Sunday, October 9

Be at the park at 9:00 a.m. on October 16 to decorate

Fall Music Fest

Gary will know by Wednesday if we have funds for this activity

## Public Forum

Josh Avigael shared that he was on the Park Commission when it created the field. Since then there have been issues with kids' sports teams using the field for practices. Although we have a permitting process in place, many of these teams have not applied for a permit. They probably don't know that this is necessary.

Money from the permits would be a great source of revenue to cover wear and tear of the field, which currently has some masonry damage. Also, the permits cover the park's liability issues. Josh suggested an email blast informing residents about the permit process. He also suggested that we raise the non-refundable portion of the fees as a revenue producing item.

Enforcement is also an issue. Since the POA controls access, we could lean on them. The guard shacks could have paperwork on what permits have been issued and can pass on the message about the permit process. The guards could also, when aware of someone using the field, go by and inform them of the process. We probably wouldn't get to all of them, but at least we could get a higher percentage to pay.

Eric suggested hiring a park attendant during key hours. This person could run a program for the kids, as well as making sure groups using the park have a permit so do so.

Pat Zepp mentioned that all area parks are full for practices. We don't want to discourage use of our park, just have the permit process work for it.

Gary said any of us, when we see groups using the park, can ask them who is in charge, how they found the park, get their email and phone, and tell them about the permit process. After acquiring this information, we can re-group and maybe have a special session on this topic.

Angie mentioned that security guards make \$15 an hour and are always looking for extra work. Also, RealManage has staff as park attendants in other communities who have more extensive facilities.

Pat Zepp suggested that Megan send a weekly email to the guards letting them know who has permits. Gary said that he will get a weekly list to the Commission and will copy Angie so she can be sure the guards have it.

Next Meeting : Monday, October 10 at 4:00 p.m. in the MUD Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned by Gary at 5:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Ovlen

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pam Ovlen', is written over the printed name.