

**Clear Lake Parks and Recreation
Regular Board Meeting
CLP&R Office Building**

February 22, 2010

Chairperson Stuart Trembath called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Trembath, Finstad, Berding, Korenberg, Blaha

Others Present: Sue Keefe (Parks and Recreation Director), Randy Miller (Parks and Recreation Assistant Director), Matt and Regatta Olinger (Tropical Sno Representatives)

Consent Agenda:

A. Minutes from January 25th, 2010.

The minutes were presented and reviewed, with no questions arising from the board members

B. Accounts Payable- January 2010

Berding asked Sue to review any major developments. Keefe mentioned that Rob Bell was paid half of his skating rink maintenance fee (\$1838.00), and Fry and Associates were paid (\$858.85) for a memorial bench. That money was a donation, but is reflected as a purchase in payables. The bench is to be installed by Memorial Day. A motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Finstad, Second by Blaha, all members voting aye.

Financial Reports:

Trembath asked if anything was out of the ordinary in financial reports. Keefe mentioned that some of the money left over from purchasing windscreens, was going to be used for the purchase of a character slide at the Aquatic Center. City Hall informed Keefe that money was designated for use in a different line item, and she would need approval from the City Administrator (Scott Flory) to use that additional money towards the purchase of the slide. Keefe stated that she would discuss the issue with Mr. Flory, and inform him that the Park Board would like to see the money used to purchase the slide. Blaha questioned why contracted services is over budget already, Keefe stated that the 28E payment for school gym usage came out of that line item (\$7662.00), and that it was not previously budgeted for because the school had not sent a statement for payment. The budget will need to be amended to compensate for that payment.

Unfinished Business:

A. Program Report, Aquatic Center, Park Work, Monthly Planning Calendar

The Wrestling program finished up, and due to bad weather, the wrestling tournament had to be re-scheduled to Thursday the 25th (approx. 60 individuals participated). The Indoor Soccer Program is entering its final week. Trembath (who supervises the program) discussed the venue change and some positives and negatives associated with Clear Creek Gym. He mentioned that the access to the bathrooms is better, but when the gym curtain is down, the bleachers cannot be pulled out for seating. Berding questioned why the location changed, and Keefe/Trembath informed him that the Surf wanted to use the gym for a memorabilia sale during the 50's in February Celebration, and instead of having multiple locations for the program, it was moved to Clear Creek. Women's Volleyball is going fine, and the department has been advertising for the Adult Dodgeball league. Drop in volleyball numbers have been excellent all season. Keefe then asked the board their recommendation regarding daily entry fees for the aquatic center, the board suggested that if fees are going to be raised, raise it \$1.00 instead of a quarter or fifty cents. Keefe argued that compared to other pools, our facility does not have as many

amenities. Daily admission fees have not increased since the Aquatic Center has opened. Keefe mentioned she would discuss the issue with the City Administrator. In regards to the planning calendar, staff for summer programs is being contacted/hired, Keefe mentioned a concern regarding finding enough lifeguards for the pool this summer, and that announcements for employment have been sent out to the media. All lifeguards must pass an American Red Cross life guarding and first aid course. Also, lifeguards who are WSI certified get paid more, but will be required to teach lessons at least two of the three swimming lesson sessions. Snow removal continues, and Miller has been battling with equipment breakdowns. The board suggested that different options be looked into for the near future, and that budgeting for new snow removal equipment in the near future will be necessary. The Ice-skating rink is going great; Rob has been enforcing the rules this season, and Trembath mentioned he has heard positive feedback from the community regarding how the rink is being managed.

B. Public Dock Update:

Dock users and dock agents have been sent packets of information (public dock agreement) which outline rules/regulations, and a signature is required stating that the packets have been reviewed. Berding questioned whether the Seawall Dock would/should be extended, to allow for deeper water on approach to the dock. Trembath and Berding suggested that Keefe/Miller ask the dock installation company if there would be stability issues by extending it.

C. FY Budget:

Windscreens for the tennis courts are all that need to be ordered, we have \$5000.00 for windscreens. The \$15,000 for the Recreation area has not been used, and it was suggested by Keefe that we could use that money on parking improvements at the Rec Area. Trembath suggested that we should begin looking into grants for the recreation area.

D. City Park Ordinances:

Keefe mentioned that she spoke with Charlie Biebersheimer (city attorney), and he has been unable to attend this and past meetings because of scheduling conflicts. Due to this, city ordinances were not discussed in depth.

E. City Beautification Bids:

Miller addressed the boards concerns regarding the proposed tree plantings with Natural Plus's City Park Beautification proposal. Dave Hopper, (Owner of Natural Plus) stated that the trees in question tend to grow a crown that is egg shaped, and should not encroach on the sidewalk. If the trees were to encroach, they (the trees) could be trimmed back as needed. The trees could be moved further from the sidewalk as well. Berding expressed concern of how the area would function during the 4th of July celebration, and it was determined the plan should work well. Country Landscapes proposal was discussed, and if implemented, would be done in stages. The scope of Country Landscapes plan is roughly ½ the size of Natural Plus's. Berding suggested that the department approach the Chamber of Commerce with the proposed plan (whichever is chosen) prior to implementation, to ensure they "do not panic" when construction begins. Keefe agreed, saying she would be happy to present the beautification plan to the Chamber. Finstad then motioned to accept Natural Plus's proposal bid, seconded by Blaha, all members voting aye.

New Business

A. Usage Requests- Noon Lions Chicken BBQ- City Park, July 18th 2010

The Noon Lions were requesting the use of City Park for their annual chicken BBQ fundraiser on July 18th, 2010 from 2 am – 5 pm.

Berding motioned to approve the request, second by Finstad, all members voting aye.

B. Dru Betz- Ice Cream Machine

Mr. Betz was not present at the board meeting, so the issue was not discussed in depth.

C. Mary Olinger- Tropical Sno on City Property (Representative present was Matt Olinger)

After introducing himself to the board, Matt Olinger described his business, the Tropical Sno stand located under the awning at the former bakery storage building off Main Ave. (Tropical Sno are icy beverages, similar to a “slushy”, and offered in a variety of flavors) He and his wife are interested in moving the location of their business closer to the city beach/city park area, and were inquiring into the “hoops” that needed to be jumped through to re-locate his business onto city property. The board informed Mr. Olinger that they could make a recommendation to City Council, but ultimately, the decision to allow, or not allow his business to be on city property, would be made by them (city council). Berding expressed concern of setting precedence, and how and where do you “draw that line” for allowing or not allowing similar opportunities to other community members who would like to set up shop on city property. Trembath informed Mr. Olinger that the board would need a formal proposal outlining the plan for the business. Finstad expressed his opinion that having a business like Tropical Sno near the waterfront would be great, especially for boaters, and that Matt’s business is unique in Clear Lake, and it would not draw business away from other shop owners downtown. The board mentioned that the building would have to be aesthetically pleasing relative to its surroundings, and Mr. Olinger acknowledged that sentiment, and he is willing to update the building to suit that need. Discussion continued regarding the re-location of Mr. Olinger’s business, with a motion being made by Finstad, to recommend to city council, to allow Mr. Olinger’s business to be set up on City Property, across from Elly’s Lakefront Tap, with the stipulation that it must be aesthetically pleasing, and the contract will be for one year as a trial period. Korenberg seconded the motion, all members voting aye.

D. Kinney Lindstrom Foundation

Keefe made a form for Kinney Lindstrom requests. This was done because in the past there was no way of knowing how much money was being spent at a given site. Individuals would simply ask to purchase the same number of flowers each year. Of course the cost of flowers have gone up, so it was becoming increasingly difficult to ensure that there was enough money to pay for what was being requested. The form was kept simple as to hopefully not confuse anyone. It asks for the location of each site, and the amount of money requested. Applications will be approved/denied by the Park Board. A motion to approve the new form was made by Korenberg, seconded by Berding, all members voting aye.

E. Sunset School Report

Keefe reviewed information regarding utility costs for the past year at sunset school. Electricity cost’s were \$7370.00 for the year, Gas was approx. \$13,000.00, and sewer fees were \$645.00. The fees were not as high as expected, yet still a large increase from what is now being paid. The utility costs did not include air conditioning during the warmer months because the school turned off the system. Berding listed his “pro’s and con’s” of the facility. In his opinion, there were more con’s than pro’s related to its functionability for the Parks and Recreation Department. In general, the building would be an upgrade of office space, but would not supply the much-needed usable gym space. The building has a newer roof and heating system, and nice existing green space. It also would supply plenty of space for fitness programs and other indoor children’s programs. Berding feels that additional parking would need to be added, and that although the facility has a gym, it is far too small to use for athletic activities such as basketball, volleyball, soccer, etc., and would not relieve the

issue of not having enough gym space. The bathroom/s would need to be updated/changed, and the existing playground would need to be updated. Further discussion regarding the possibility of adding gym space to the existing building continued. Finstad commented that there is an easement directly through the adjacent green space, which could be problematic if an addition was needed. Berding believes that pursuing both Sunset and the Rec Area improvements, splits the focus, and he believes that would push the Rec Area improvements back even further. After further discussion, the board determined that the building would be an upgrade of office space, but far too much of the facility would remain unused and empty, and the existing gym does not improve the departments' need for usable gym space. Trembath suggested that the discussion be listed in the minutes, and the issue be revisited if necessary.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

S/_____
Chairperson, Stuart Trembath

S/_____
Assistant Director, Randy Miller