



**MINUTES OF
PARKS/CLEAN CITY COMMITTEE MEETING
January 12, 2009**

The Parks/Clean City Committee met on the above date at 6:31 p.m. with the following Committee members and City Staff present: Donald Bailey, Gladys Hardeman, Henry Johnson, Pearl Jones, Economic Development and Community Relations Director Venus Wehle and City Planner Barbara Koerble. Absent: Chad McCarthy, Gloria Sanders, and Rodney Wright.

Opening Agenda:

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Vice Chairman Pearl Jones called the meeting to order.

2. Invocation

Invocation was delivered by Henry Johnson.

3. Pledge to Flags

Pledge to the United States and Texas flags were recited.

4. Approval of minutes from September 8, 2008 meeting

A motion was made by Committee member Gladys Hardeman to accept the minutes of September 8, 2008. Seconded by Committee member Henry Johnson and passed as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Hardeman, Johnson, and Jones
Nays: None
Absent: McCarthy, Sanders, and Wright

5. Introduction of new city staff member, Barbara Koerble, City Planner

Introduction of Barbara Koerble was made by Economic Development & Community Relations Director Venus Wehle. Ms. Koerble gave a brief rundown of her employment history including Planner experience. Vice Chair Jones welcomed Ms. Koerble to the City.

6. Discuss and consider ordinance amending Chapter 90 "PARKS AND RECREATION," Article I, "in General" to establish a new section 90-3 entitled "PARK HOURS OF OPERATION."

Vice Chair Jones opened the discussion with a brief review of Section 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the current document. She asked Committee members if they had any questions about the new section and no one did. City Staff member Wehle informed the committee that Anglin Park may at times need to be used until 11:00 p.m. due to soccer games. The Committee members were asked to consider extending the hours of operation. Vice Chair Jones asked City Staff member Koerble about her knowledge of park hours and Koerble stated that it was not unusual for parks to be open that late into the evening.

A motion was made by Committee member Hardeman to accept section 90-3 with the following changes: Sec. 90-3 (2) be changed to read "...between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m..." and Sec. 90-3 (3) to read "...between the hours of 11:01 p.m. and 5:59 a.m..." Seconded by Committee member Henry Johnson as passed s follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Hardeman, Johnson, and Jones
 Nays: None
 Absent: McCarthy, Sanders, and Wright

7. Update on Parks Master Plan Grant application.

Discussion was lead by City Staff member Wehle and gave detailed information about grant writer Judy Lankford, her company and the job she and her staff were hired to do for the City. Wehle stated the grant application deadline is January 31, 2009 and will be met. Vice Chair Jones applauded the Parks Master Plan and the efforts put forth by the students at UTA and the City staff.

8. Discuss regulation of Smoking Ordinance.

Wehle asked the committee to review the smoking ordinance included in their packets and be prepared to discuss it at the February meeting. It will be this Committee’s job to suggest changes and forward it to City Council. Vice Chair Jones asked that “burning tobacco” be defined since it is stated in section “EE” on page 5 and asked that the typographical error on page 6, Section 9.69 A, line 3 be correct to read “for” not ‘far.” She requested information from the City about chewing tobacco/snuff and if its use can be prohibited also since the use of it offends many people. Jones also suggested that the Committee do its own research on other cities and formulate their own questions for the next meeting.

9. Discuss Tree Ordinance.

Wehle asked the Committee to review the tree ordinance included in their packets and be prepared to discuss it at the February meeting. Koerble asked the members to consider adding to the ordinance wording that would have developers designate areas that would be preserved even suggesting an area of trees be set aside on residential or commercial property as an easement so it can stay protected. She also stated that a tree canopy can be significant and that a percentage of it can be applied to preservation in both residential and commercial areas. She went on further to say that a canopy benefits the environment, filters out pollutants and provides shade. Koerble made reference to the City of Keller’s ordinance and the inclusion of a picture of a canopy that depicts the “drip line” and shows how to measure trees.

Vice Chair Jones added that she likes the addition of the “Agenda Item Request Form” document to the packets and asked if there was a way to save paper and condense the documentation instead of having to use several pages. She also encouraged all Committee members to attend the next meeting on February 9th.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Committee adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approval:

Gladys Hardeman, Secretary

Chad McCarty, Chairman