



**MINUTES OF
PARKS/CLEAN CITY COMMITTEE MEETING
August 10, 2009**

The Parks/Clean City Committee met on the above date at 6:03 p.m. with the following Committee members and City Staff present: Gladys Hardeman, Henry Johnson, Pearl Jones, Chad McCarty, City Manager David Miller, Economic Development and Community Relations Director Venus Wehle and Acting Public Works Director Roberto Duenes. Absent: Donald Bailey and Rodney Wright.

Opening Agenda:

A. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Chairman Chad McCarty called the meeting to order.

B. Invocation

Invocation was delivered by Chairman Chad McCarty.

C. Pledge to Flags

Pledge to the United States and Texas flags were recited.

D. Consent Agenda: All consent agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the Parks/Clean City Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Committee Member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

1. Approval of minutes from June 8, 2009 meeting

A motion was made by Committee member Gladys Hardeman to accept the minutes of June 8, 2009 with the amendments to correct "Ronald Bailey" to "Donald Bailey," add Henry Johnson as in attendance and add Rodney Wright as absent at the meeting. Seconded by Committee member Pearl Jones and passed as follows:

Ayes: Hardeman, Jones, Johnson, McCarty
Nays: None
Absent: Bailey, Wright

E. Deliberation Agenda:

2. Discuss City of Forest Hill Parks Scheduling and Usage Fees

Committee member Gladys Hardeman stated that we need to get the president of the football league to attend a Parks/Clean City Committee meeting and discuss how they can contribute to the city. She stated that the teams need a contract to play in the City of Forest Hill and not use the fields for practicing.

City Manager David Miller stated that parks usage can generate needed revenue and that fees are a necessary part of doing business.

Pearl Jones told the Board that she thought the fees charged by White Settlement are very low. She stated that while their population is similar to Forest Hill, she suggested doubling the fees but not out-price ourselves. She also added that maybe we need to have signed contracts with the groups who use our fields. She asked the difference between “coordinated” and “non-coordinated” organizations. Venus Wehle explained that “coordinated” means an organized, youth/adult association; she suggested adding descriptions for each into the Policies and Procedures document. She asked if there were any contracted athletic groups in the city and Venus Wehle said no. Ms. Wehle also stated that the city needs to develop an ordinance and policies & procedures for the groups to use the facilities.

Chairman McCarty stated that whatever we do, we need to do it “boldly.” He said he believes that the football association uses our fields because they are free.

Pearl Jones feels that the Board does not have to have a discussion with the football league about the formation of a contract. She said that they need to understand that the city needs their cooperation with using city fields and will need to understand that they will have to sign a contract.

Acting Public Works Director Roberto Duenes commented that he likes the Mansfield Policies and Procedures. Several other members commented that they felt the same.

Henry Johnson likes using the “coordinated” and “non-coordinated” organizations category.

Chairman Chad McCarty asked who striped the fields. Roberto Duenes stated that the Public Works Department did the job on a weekly basis. Pearl Jones stated that verbiage should be added that “no one who is unauthorized is allowed to strip the fields” or something similar. Duenes asked that the Park/Clean City Committee consider charging fees for the striping to help offset city costs.

Gladys Hardeman stated that the groups need to have a permit to play/use the fields.

The Board discussed the following fee suggestions:

1. Field usage coordinated organizations- \$15 per game daytime/ \$20 per game nighttime
2. Field usage non-coordinated organizations- \$30 per game daytime/\$40 per game nighttime
3. Light usage fee-coordinated organizations- \$10 per game nighttime
4. Light usage fee- non-coordinated \$20 per game nighttime
5. field marking fee - coordinated organizations \$TBA per season
6. field marking fee - non-coordinated \$TBA per season

At 7:50pm Henry Johnson left the meeting.

3. Discuss current budget.

Chairman Chad McCarty asked for a 2008-2009 month-by-month breakdown for future meetings.

4. Discuss meeting date for September, 2009

Henry Johnson was called and put on speakerphone and asked his opinion on the suggested special meeting date. Vice-Chairman Pearl Jones requested a special meeting be held Wednesday, August 19th to discuss and consider a Policies and Procedures document as well as a parks schedule and fee schedule so that it can be put in front of City Council by September 1, 2009. Gladys Hardeman suggested the city send a letter to the football and soccer associations that the Parks/Clean City Committee is working on a parks schedule and fee schedule.

F. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Committee adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Approval:

Gladys Hardeman, Secretary

Chad McCarty, Chairman