

Minutes approved by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Park and Recreation Advisory Board  
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING  
February 18, 2010

Pursuant to the notice as required by law, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Ponca City Oklahoma convened in open session at 5:30 P.M. on February 18, 2010 in the B. S. Barnes Room, City Hall, 516 E. Grand Ave.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bivins, Cox, Kennedy, Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gregg

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelly Murphy, Leadership Class Representative; Beverly Bryant, Ponca City News; Bill Flegler, City Commission; Joe Allen, Lake Patrol; Jim Sindelar, Director, Parks and Recreation; Katie Goss, staff; Melissa Young, United Way; Lily Freeman, United Way Agency – Success by Six; Citizens – Dave Carter, 2500 Bonnie Dr., Betty Carter, 2500 Bonnie Dr., Ron Kraft, 929 N. McCord Rd., Joyce and Greg Husen, 1455 N. Prentice, Bobby Gibson, 916 E. Overbrook, William Edwardson, 700 S. Oak, Richard Winterrowd, 129 Whitworth, Phillip Blochoviak, 1209 N. Ash, Marsha Moore, 469 S. Prentice, Zack Pryse, 1715 Christmas Tree Lane, Matt Connelly, 2705 Avon Ave., Donna Cales, 2081 Osage Cove Rd., Vivian Tackett, 121 Glenside, Dwayne Tackett, 121 Glenside, Cheryl Smith, 1600 Blackard Lane, P.J. Mays, 437 Stardust Trail, Scott Sober, 7348 E. Prospect, Clement Collogan, 72 Stoneridge, Paul Hagood, 2300 Copperfield Circle, Dave Baur, 100 Lakeview Dr.

1. Call to Order

Kennedy called the meeting to order.

2. Citizen Comments.

Greg Husen, 1455 N. Prentice Rd, requested trash containers be placed along Dam Road where the boat ramp is located. Felt this may alleviate trash problem.

Joyce Husen, 1455 N. Prentice Rd, suggested playground equipment at Ambuc Park be updated and perhaps add small gazebos or pavilions to increase use of the area.

3. Consider and vote on the minutes of the January 21, 2010, regular meeting.

A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Young to approve the minutes of the January 21 meeting as presented. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Kennedy, Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

4. Directors Report.(taken out of order)

Sindelar reviewed the capital projects requested using the Hotel/Motel Tax Dollars. He then presented an update on the progress of the construction of the new recreation center. Sindelar reported the request from the Bassmasters to hold the state youth fishing tournament is on the consent agenda for the City Commission meeting Monday, February 22, 2010.

**Public Hearing**

5. A. Conduct a Public Hearing on changing City Code 9-5-6-G(1980 Code § 18-31; amd. 2003 Code) to increase the length of boats allowed on Lake Ponca from 22 ft to 25 ft.

Riley, Chairperson of Lake Committee, explained the committee felt the extending the existing 22 ft length should be considered because of the newer technology, better features and bigger motors on boats today. Collectively the committee felt the maximum length should be 25 ft. The length of the boat is defined by the manufacturer’s statement which is used by the Oklahoma Tax Commission for registration of the boat. The recommendation of the committee is regarding the length of a boat, not a particular type of boat.

Kennedy reviewed the rules to receive public comments. Each recognized person will be allowed two minutes to express their comments regarding the recommendation to increase the length of boats allowed on Lake Ponca from 22 ft to 25 ft.

<b>Name/Address</b>	<b>For or Against</b>	<b>Comments Received</b>
Greg Husen 1455 N. Prentice	Against	Concerned with dock getting pounded with wave action.
Scott Sober 7348 E. Prospect	Against	Big boats create rough waves; if decision is to go with big boats push the ski area further up East Lake Ponca.
Ron Kraft 929 N. McCord Rd	For	Kraft is a wake boarder. Whether length is 22 or 25, the boat is weighted with ballast. Most users out to wakeboard don’t do so if people are on the lake.
Paul Hagood 2303 Copper Circle	For	Wake has nothing to do with size of the craft. Extend area on East Lake. Most wakeboards cannot operate along the dock area. Approval would increase overall attractiveness and visibility of the Lake. Lake Committee recommendation well founded.

Bobby Gibson 916 E. Overbrook	Not Opposed (with concern)	Stated he has been on the lake a long time. Not opposed to wake boards but is concerned with what type of craft would be attracted with a 25 ft. Could restrict wake board to East Lake. Wake boards are not the problem the high strung boats with deep vees would be the problem.
Cheryl Smith 1600 Blackard		Ms. Smith did not address the question before the Park Board regarding length of boats. Comments pertained to previous decisions made several years ago regarding use of East Lake. Kennedy advised Smith her time was up.
Matt Connelly 2705 Avon Ave.	For	Connelly is for the longer length as long as they stay under the speed limits and observe idle speeds as posted.
P.J. Mays 437 Stardust Trail	Against	Keep at 22 ft. There are different classes of boats such as runabouts. Some have deeper drifts; longer boats displace more water. Wake boards are usually on the lake during the week. Cruiser boats are huge with deeper vee hull.
Vivian Tackett 121 Glenside	For	25 ft is reasonable. It is important to watch speed limits on the lake.
Ron Kraft		Regarding the concern about damage to docks – Kraft suggestion would be to extend the buoy line.
Joyce Husen 1455 N. Prentice	Against	Stated she lives on East side of East Lake and never thought use of East Lake for boating as a problem. Opposed to increased length of boats but would suggest increase East Lake area of usage. Husen stated they have a dock next to a boat ramp and area is congested with current traffic; concerned about bigger boats.

Board member Wentroth stated comments being received were about increasing length of boat not opening East Lake Ponca.

Bobby Gibson asked the average length of wake boat. Kraft state average length is 22 ½ ft.

With no further public comments, Kennedy commented the purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive comments from the public to help determine what is in the best interest of the citizens, what would increase usage of the area and be the will be of public. Comments were closed.

B. Consider and vote on recommending to the Board of Commissioners that City Code 9-5-6-G(1980 Code § 18-31; amd. 2003 Code) be amended to increase the length of boats allowed on Lake Ponca from 22 ft to 25 ft.

Kennedy called for a motion recommending to the Board of Commissioners that City Code 9-5-6-G(1980 Code § 18-31; amd. 2003 Code) be amended to increase the length of boats allowed on Lake Ponca from 22 ft to 25 ft.

Moore made a motion to take the comments received and refer the recommendation back to the Lake Committee for further discussion. Motion was seconded by Bivins. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Cox, Kennedy, Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None. Staff explained no action will be taken regarding the item until the next Park Board meeting. Moore explained his recommendation to refer the item back to the Lake Committee was to be sure all comments are considered.

6. A. Conduct a Public Hearing on changing City Code 9-5-9-H (1980 Code § 18-103) to allow swimming in designated areas at Lake Ponca.

Riley, Chairperson of Lake Committee, explained for years Lake Ponca has been considered a water source for the community and it no longer considered a main source. The lake is really nice and when you look around and see a lot of people trying to swim, it seemed we need to consider making it legal. The committee recommended a swim beach be developed on Lake Ponca. No location for the beach has been determined. Kennedy stated staff will study the area and look at the best location for a beach and define rules and regulations for use of designated swim area.

Kennedy reviewed the rules to receive public comments. Each recognized person will be allowed two minutes to express their comments regarding the recommendation allow swimming in designated areas at Lake Ponca.

Name/Address	For or Against	Comments Received
Vivian Tackett 121 Glenside	For	They spend a lot of time at the lake. People usually swim off docks. If going to allow, do so within established guidelines and enforce.
Matt Connelly 2705 Avon	For	For swimming as long as there are guidelines around docks and designated areas. Beach would be wonderful and provide recreation for all.

Scott Sober 7348 E. Prospect	For	Have a buoy line established. A swim beach would be good.
Paul Hagood 2303 Copper Circle	For	Fantastic! Codify what is happening making enforcement easier.
Ron Kraft 929 N. McCord Rd	For	
Cheryl Smith 1600 Blackard	For (with exception)	Should be located on West Lake closer to Lake Patrolman. This area would be more suitable for parking, protecting East Lake as natural area and for fishermen. Used to see handicap on beach of East Lake fishing, no longer see them. Against swimming in East Lake.
Richard Winterrowd 129 Whitworth	For	Suggested allowing in the coves where there is no traffic.
Bobby Gibson 916 E. Overbrook	For	As long as the lake is not a water supply.
Joyce Husen 1455 N. Prentice	For	As long as it is a designated swim area.

Paul Hagood, 2303 Copper Circle, suggested the southwest corner of lake appears best for swimming to him.

P. J. Mays 437 Stardust Trail	For	Allowing swimming in lake would free lake patrol for other issues; however, there will be other problems with a swim beach.
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Winterrowd stated a lot of swimming is currently going on at the boat ramp across from the volleyball courts.

Zack Pryse 1715 Christmas Tree	For	For if area is within the buoys. Would like a clarification of the areas.
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Sindelar stated no areas have been determined. Staff will look at different areas before making a decision where to locate a swim beach.

Dwayne Tackett  
121 Glenside

For

Tackett is for allowing swimming in Lake Ponca with no restrictions.

Matt Connelly, 2705 Avon, commented he would like to be able to swim around his boat. If beach established have it clearly marked "NO boats allowed in the area".

Comments were closed.

B. Consider and vote on recommending to the Board of Commissioners that City Code 9-5-9-H (1980 Code § 18-103) be amended to allow swimming in designated areas at Lake Ponca. Kennedy stated the vote is whether to change City Code to allow swimming in designated areas at Lake Ponca. Designated areas would be defined and designed by Park and Recreation staff.

A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Riley to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that City Code 9-5-9-H (1980 Code § 18-103) be amended to allow swimming in designated areas at Lake Ponca. The guidelines would be established and areas determined by Park and Recreation staff. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Cox, Kennedy, Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

Moore asked staff if there would need to be a plan before the recommendation is sent to the City Commission. Sindelar stated staff would prepare a plan and cost before the item is presented to the commissioners for consideration. Staff will present this information to the Park Board at the next meeting. Pryse asked if liability issues have been checked out. Sindelar said yes. Sindelar stated the intent is not to have a lifeguard at the swim beach.

#### **Old Business**

7. None.

#### **New Business**

8. Receive and take action as needed regarding presentation by Melissa Young to introduce The Born Learning Trail.

Young introduced Lily Freeman, Early Learning Coordinator with Smart Start. Freeman explained the learning trail which encourages and energizes learning outside. The focus of Smart Start is to get kids outside to play again and provide opportunities to learn at the same time.

Sindelar stated staff is excited about the learning trail. The project brings something the department has not had before. The area the department plans to use for the learning trail is the existing concrete sidewalk along 5<sup>th</sup> Street from the existing trail entrance to Overbrook then along 7<sup>th</sup> Street to the existing trail entrance.

Young and Freeman displayed some of the signs which will be installed along the trail explaining to the parents what to do at each activity station. Young said Lowe's and YAP's have both expressed interest in partnering on the project. United Way has already purchased the signs and stencils for the trails. This project will encourage family interaction through learning outside.

A motion was made by Wentroth and seconded by Wilson to support the installation of The Born Learning Trail. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Kennedy, Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

9. Discuss and take action as needed on event request from Po-Hi Class '77 reunion committee. Staff requested this item be pulled from the agenda. A motion was made by Young and seconded by Bivins to remove the item as requested by staff. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Kennedy, Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.
10. Receive Committee Reports and take actions as needed.  
Lake Committee – no report.  
Park Committee – no report.

Recreation Committee – Wentroth reported the committee met and reviewed the status of projects in progress from 2009. Many of the projects were requested for funding in 2010-11 Park and Recreation Budget. The Spray Park and the Adult Fitness Course would begin after the Master Plan has been completed in the summer of 2010.

Discussion on the Interest Survey was the main focus of the meeting. The committee decided to pursue the distribution of the Survey as soon as possible in an affordable way. Many ideas for distribution were presented. The Interest Survey modifications included: deletion of Running Clubs, Walking Clubs and BMX interest areas and addition of Boxing/Martial Arts, Tai Chi and Gardening. A deadline and a thank you statement at the end will be included on the survey form.

The next meeting of the Recreation Committee will be on Wednesday, March 3 at 5:30 at the Park and Recreation Office to work on distribution of survey.

11. Discuss items for March 2010 agenda.  
Information from staff regarding swimming beach.  
Lake Committee report.  
Recreation Committee report.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business a motion was made by Moore and seconded by Wentroth to adjourn the meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Kennedy, Moore, Riley, Wentroth, Wilson, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.