

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
Minutes – Regular Meeting
January 15, 2015

Pursuant to the notice as required by law, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board of City of Ponca City, Oklahoma, convened in open session at 5:30 p.m., January 15, 2015, in the Barnes Room, City Hall, 516 E. Grand Ave.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bivins, Moore, Troutman, Wentroth and Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cox, Riley, Throop and Polito.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeremy Sacket, Leadership Class; Roy Pemberton, 809 E. Overbrook, Ponca City, OEF/PCMTBS; Aaron Reynolds, 2405 Kingston Ponca City, PCMBS; Jeff Rawdon, 2112 Everglade Court, Yukon; Oklahoma Earthbike Fellowship; John Shears, 19133 Green Springs Drive, Edmond, OEF/PCMTBS; Jim Sindelar, Director and Katie Goss, staff.

1. Call to Order
Bivins, acting chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Consider and vote on the minutes of the October 16, 2014, regular meeting.
The motion was made by Moore and seconded by Wentroth to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2014, regular meeting as presented. Vote was as follows: Yes: Bivins, Moore, Troutman, Wentroth and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.
3. Director's Report
Sindelar reported the City received a \$75,000 Phillips Grant to purchase and construct a nature themed playground at McGraw Park. The play area will encourage active outdoor play. The City is currently renovating the north 1/3 of Hutchins Trail at War Memorial Park and repairing a 70 foot strip of the Marland Walking Trail located in Redbud Park.

City departments are currently preparing Capital Requests for the 2015-16 fiscal budget year. Board members are encouraged to email suggestions for possible capital projects.

Public Hearings – None
Old Business – None

New Business

4. Receive committee recommendation regarding request to develop a mountain bike trail in Lake Ponca Recreation Area and take action as needed. Sindelar reported, on behalf of the committee, the committee had met twice. The first meeting with Roy Pemberton and originally discussed the old Boy Scout area, which was determined to be too small and adjoined private property. Then it was decided to look at Snake Road below Wentz Camp heading north to Hubbard Road. The committee met a second time to discuss all the pros and cons of the proposed project. After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the proposed project would enhance the Lake Ponca Recreation Area, providing another alternative recreation opportunity. The committee recommends the Park Board consider the proposed project.

Pemberton explained he started a Facebook page one year ago to see if there was enough interest and as of this day has over 300 likes for the Facebook page. He then connected with the Oklahoma Earthbike Fellowship and the group just connected with International Mountain Bicycle Association. The first big work day the group had at Eagle View, Kaw Lake, had twenty volunteers; however, this trail is a twenty minute drive outside of Ponca. The group would like to have something closer to town.

John Shears said he grew up on Ponca City and road mountain bikes in high school and through college. He stopped for a while and is now back riding on a regular basis. He is a board member of Oklahoma Earthbike Fellowship. International Mountain Bicycle Association is a valuable resource for the group.

A representative of IMBA walked the proposed area with Mr. Pemberton to determine the feasibility of the project. OEF can help apply for grant funds.

The IMBA representative felt the proposed area was a good location. Cyclists of all levels will be able to use the proposed trail. Signs would designate the skill level for different parts of the trail. The trail would be a mountain biking trail with the potential for hiking and off limits to equestrian use. Inclusion of equestrian use would be more costly to build the trail. The proposed trail would be approximately three foot wide and stay approximately thirty foot away from the shoreline, utilizing the existing topography.

Moore asked about parking location and Sindelar said the trail could start at Wentz Camp making a loop from below Wentz Camp to Hubbard Road and back. Wentroth asked about the timeline for construction of the project and those present from the group said they would start immediately upon approval. They would like to construct the trail now before the ticks come out. Grant funds are not needed to start the project. Construction is labor intensive. The complete loop of the proposed trail is five - seven miles.

Moore asked if there was enough interest. OEF lists the existing mountain bike trails on their web site. Rawdon said north central Oklahoma is currently underserved. Moore asked how many workers the group has. OEF will help put the word out on their web site and facebook regarding work days on various trails. Moore asked what the next step for the board would be. Sindelar stated if the board gives approval of the project concept then a Public Hearing will be scheduled. Once comments are received the board will make a recommendation for the City Commission to consider.

Troutman asked how much work could be accomplished in a work day. Rowden said the first step is the flag the proposed trail then clear brush as needed. Not all brush would be cleared. This area has lots of rock and is good terrain.

Wentroth asked if there is an organized club. Pemberton stated OEF Ponca City has organized as a group. Sindelar said if approval is given for the project a License to build and maintain the trail will be issued and the trail would be open to the public.

A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Troutman to hold a Public Hearing to receive comments on the project and make a recommendation to the City Commission. Vote was as follows: Yes: Bivins, Moore, Troutman, Wentroth and Young. No – None. Abstention – None. Available meeting dates for a Public Hearing were provided for consideration. The Public Hearing will be scheduled for Tuesday, January 27 at 5:30 PM in the McFadden Room.

5. Receive report from Park Committee & Dog Park Task Force and take action as needed.
No report.
6. Receive report from Lake Committee and take action as needed.
No report.
7. Receive report from Recreation Committee and take action as needed.
Wentroth reported the Daddy Long Legs 5K Race was held since the last board meeting. Although a cold day it was a good turnout.
8. Comments from chairperson or board members.
None.
9. Discuss February Agenda.
Budget Update

CITIZEN COMMENTS

10. Citizen Comments (Open for Ponca City citizens to be heard on items not included on this Agenda.) Comments will be limited 5 minutes unless extended by the Advisory Board.

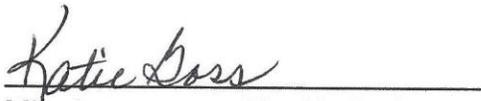
11. Adjourn.

There being no further business the motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

ATTEST:



Robin Riley, Chairperson



Minutes prepared by Katie Goss, staff