

Minutes approved by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Park and Recreation Advisory Board  
MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING  
November 19, 2009

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 November 19, 2009 in the B. S. Barnes Room, City Hall, 516 E. Grand Ave.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bivins, Gregg, Kennedy, Riley and Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cox, Moore, Wentroth and Wilson.

OTHERS PRESENT: Rusty Reed, 37 Hillcrest, lake user; Earl Ball, 2404 Donner, bicycle trail user; Beverly Bryant, Ponca City News; Jim Sindelar, Director, Park and Recreation Dept.; Katie Goss, Park and Recreation staff.

1. Call to Order

Kennedy called the meeting to order.

2. Citizen Comments.

Rusty Reed introduced himself and wanted to express his opinion regarding committee discussions to allow larger boats on Lake Ponca. Mr. Reed stated he felt the current boat length of 22 foot is adequate for Lake Ponca. Increasing the boat size allowed will create more wear and tear on boat docks. Reed does not feel Lake Ponca should compete with Kaw Lake. He stated when a 21 foot wake boat is wake surfing it creates larger wakes. Reed does not feel Lake Ponca is large enough for cruisers and he feels the increased side will create more problems including erosion.

Sindelar reported he spoke with Mr. Howey, The Boat House, to get his opinion regarding larger boats. Howey felt it would be impossible to tell the difference between the wake of a 22 ft and a 25 ft boat. The difference with the wake boat is when the baffles are full.

Riley stated the committee felt the size limits were set originally when larger boats did not plane quickly. Riley said the wake board boats do make big wakes. Reed felt more boats would come in to use Lake Ponca from Kaw Lake.

Ball asked if there is a number limitation on Lake Ponca. Sindelar said there is currently no limitation. The board is trying to make the best use of the lake. There are still directional and speed limits. Wakes created, however, are not directional.

Riley said the committee had seen some of the 22 and 23 foot Tige' modern ski boats and felt perhaps the boat length needed to be reviewed. Reed explained all wakeboard boats have towers and ballasts. The wakeboard tower will not accommodate a skier. Reed stated if Kaw Lake is closed half of those boaters will go to Lake Ponca.

There being no more comment, Kennedy referred the discussion regarding boat length on Lake Ponca to the Lake Committee for further consideration.

3. Consider and vote on the minutes of the October 22, 2009 special meeting.  
There being no corrections a motion to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2009 special meeting was made by Riley and seconded by Bivins. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Gregg, Kennedy, Riley and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

#### **Public Hearing**

4. None.

#### **Old Business**

5. None.

#### **New Business**

6. Receive request to expand trail at Lake Ponca.  
Earl Ball, 2404 Donner, started by explaining that three years ago a natural trail, approximately 2 miles long, was created along the fence line on the west side of Lake Ponca. At one point the advisory board discussed making a complete circle up to Prospect to Pecan and back around then north from Prospect to Hubbard Road and closing the Hubbard Road entrance seasonally.

Ball has put together a group of volunteers who are interested in expanding the trail north to Hubbard to the bridge, crossing the bridge, going across the east side and coming around Wentz Camp. Ball said he has been in contact with the Earth Bike Fellowship who has some trail building experience and is interested in using volunteers to expand the trail which would increase usage of the north end of the lake.

Ball explained there would be some maintenance cost which would include the areas with severe ravines needing pedestrian bridges. Staff suggested we might be able to work with PC Energy to obtain utility poles as they replace poles. There is a problem keeping motorized vehicles off the trail, however, the north, west, and east sides of the lake have trees, rocks and boulders which will create natural boundaries prohibiting use of the trails by motorized vehicles.

Ball would like to prepare a proposed natural multi use trail system to present to the Park Board for consideration. Staff asked Ball to contact them if he needs anything from the City. Sindelar suggested the project, if properly built, may reduce erosion around the lake.

The request was referred to the Park Committee.

7. Review proposed SOP revision.

Staff presented the following revision to Standard Operation Policy No. 18 regarding clarification of dock size and extensions allowed:

***L. Dock size and extensions** - The maximum size of a dock and/or boat house shall not exceed four-hundred (400) square feet of constructed surface area and does not include ramp area. The surface area of removable jet slides (for parking of jet skis) attached to a dock is not to be included in the overall measurement of the dock.  
(1) Docks or boat houses shall not extend from the shore into the lake more than fifty (50) feet from the base flood elevation.*

*(2) Floatation devices for docks and/or boat houses shall be constructed from materials that are non-corrosive and environmentally safe for Lake Ponca. Use of Styrofoam floatation is prohibited for future floatation replacement and/or construction.*

The recommended change to Item "L" is italicized and underlined. There being no discussion Young made the motion to add the following: "off constructed surface area and does not include ramp area. The surface area of removable jet slides (for parking of jet skis) attached to a dock is not to be included in the overall measurement of the dock." to item L. **Dock Size and extensions.** Motion was seconded by Gregg. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Gregg, Kennedy, Riley and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

8. Discuss and take action as needed regarding proposed meeting schedule for 2010 calendar year.

The Park and Recreation Advisory Board currently meet the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Barnes Room, City Hall. A schedule of the meeting dates was presented for consideration with no meeting scheduled for December unless needed. Motion was made by Bivins and seconded by Young to approve the Meeting Schedule for the 2010 Calendar Year as presented. Vote was as follows: Yes - Bivins, Gregg, Kennedy, Riley and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

9. Receive Committee Reports and take actions as needed.

None.

A question was asked regarding status of the proposed swimming beach. Sindelar reported staff has checked with the Health Department and Water Resource Board and development of a swim beach does not come under their jurisdiction. Development falls under Department of Environmental Quality. There is a concern that if the City has received funds from the federal government for water improvements which included the lake then development of a swim beach cannot be pursued. Staff will continue to work on and gain information. The problem to be determined is how the lake is classified. We will continue to work with local officials. As the proposed project continues the board will probably hold a public hearing regarding the subject.

10. Discuss items for January 2010 agenda.

Committee Reports.

Capital Projects for 2010/2011.

Update regarding proposed trails project at Lake Ponca.

Update information regarding development of swimming beach.

11. Adjourn

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