

Minutes approved by Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING
August 16, 2007

Pursuant to notice as required by law, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Ponca City, Oklahoma convened in open session at 5:45 p.m. on August 16, 2007, at the Wentz Camp Dining Hall after touring the caretaker house.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ball, Bishop, Kennedy, Moore, Schieber, Whipple, and Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Leonard and Wentroth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Vicki Courtney, Darren Courtney, Matthew Grudowski, Travis Megee, Karen Bullington, and Leisa Downs, Ponca City Alternative Sports Association; Beverly Bryant, Ponca City News; Tracy Young, citizen; Jayne Detten, Historic Preservation Panel/Main Street; Craig Stephenson, Assistant City Manager; Jim Eck, Park Superintendent; Terri Sherbon, Recreation Superintendent; Katie Goss, staff.

2. Tour of Caretaker House.
1. Call to Order
Ball, Vice Chairperson, called the Park and Recreation Advisory Board to order at 5:45 p.m. after those in attendance had a chance to tour the caretaker house.
3. Citizen Comments
Grudowski requested a rescue boat be required for the hydroplane races if the races are held next year.
4. Consider and vote on minutes of July 19, 2007 meeting.
The motion was made by Bishop and seconded by Young to approve the minutes of the July meeting as presented. Vote was as follows: Yes - Ball, Bishop, Kennedy, Moore, Schieber, Whipple, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None. Motion was approved.
5. Comments from Chairman and board members.
None.
6. Directors report.
Stephenson presented the following report:
 - a) City Commission approved the agreement between the City and Garfield School to place playground equipment in Garfield Park.

- b) The Park Board is now nine (9) members with two (2) student ex-officio non-voting members.
- c) American Ramp Portable Skate Park Demo is August 26 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the northeast Library parking lot.
- d) Wentz restoration plans are in Stephenson’s office.
- e) Recreation staff is involved with the Senior Center program and expo to be held August 25.
- f) Break-ins at Lake Ponca have stopped with the apprehension of three (3) juveniles.
- g) Checked with the City Attorney and the Illegal Dumping maximum fine under General Provision is \$750 along with 30 days in jail. Signs have not been made yet. Discussion regarding enforcement of the ordinance followed. It was suggested outreach might be done through Crime Stoppers or set up a call number to report illegal dumping.

Sherbon reported the fourth annual “Dog Daze” is at Ambuc Pool on September 4 and registration is currently underway for adult volleyball.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 7. None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 8. Consider and take action as needed regarding BMX Track and Skate Park. Stephenson has met with Megee several times. Megee distributed a packet of information that included copies of Certificate of Insurance, approval of ABA sanction application, aerial photo of Dan Moran with track overlay, drawing of proposed BMX track and power point info regarding the Ponca City Alternative Sports Association.

Megee explained no trees will be removed but additional landscaping will be provided to entice families to make this a family destination. This track will be one entrance and one exit. This will be a hard pack track. Landscaping will be included along the track. The track will be a fenced area using cable rope rather than chain link if possible. The track will be open to public use except on race days.

Single point races will average 20 to 40 riders. Double point race will draw approximately 200 riders. A triple point race will draw 300-800 riders and a national race will draw 2,500-4,000 riders. BMX racing is a year round activity depending upon the weather. There is a 2-3 hour practice night during the week and one race each weekend. The race is usually on Sunday and lasts about 3 hours including registration.

Currently there are 170 parking spots available at Dan Moran Park. Megee said he was informed the YMCA has approached Junior Baseball about managing the

new fields at the recreation complex. This would relieve some of the traffic load currently experienced during baseball season.

Megee further explained the Skate Park would be city owned. The alternative sports association currently has money committed, Articles of Incorporation have been submitted to the state and they are waiting to receive their non-profit status letter. Stephenson asked what the group needs from the city. Megee stated that they need a land lease agreement between the City and the Ponca City Alternative Sports Association or their organization will lose the sanction availability. The group has received an extension to October 1 to get the agreement with the City.

A motion was made by Bishop and seconded by Whipple to recommend the approval of Dan Moran Park for the location of the BMX Track and the Skate Park. Vote was as follows: Yes - Ball, Bishop, Kennedy, Moore, Schieber, Whipple, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None. Motion was approved. Staff will present the location and plans to the City Commission at their Work Session September 4.

Stephenson reported the City is looking at an Energy Efficiency Grant through Main Street that would be used for the parking area at Dan Moran.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Consider and take action as needed regarding Wentz Caretaker House. Young stated he would not like to see the house torn down, but understand the need to be able to keep the house in good condition. Ball asked the board for any ideas of how the house may be used. Suggestions were to use as a “high class” picnic shelter, small conference center, community type museum, overnight rental. Discussion continued with the big issue being maintenance versus rental. Questions were asked about the cost to rehabilitate and ongoing expenses to maintain the house and if the house is kept the house should generate some income.

Ball supported Young’s comment not to tear down the house and continued there is a need for affordable group meeting areas. The potential for small group rentals exists. Whipple suggested prioritizing two or three uses for the house. Once those priorities are set then prepare estimated cost to adapt the house to those potential uses and then estimate the economic value of the house.

Young inquired how long this item needs to stay on the agenda. Stephenson said there is no money now to make repairs or improvements. However, Stephenson further stated the cost study needs to be done now. The budget process for the next fiscal year will begin in January. Schieber, Moore and Kennedy volunteered to serve on the ad hoc committee to gather cost information and potential use and bring a recommendation back to the Park Board for its consideration. Stephenson reminded members they have staff as a resource. Motion was made by Ball and seconded by Young to table the use and cost of repairs of the Caretaker House to

committee. Vote was as follows: Yes - Ball, Bishop, Kennedy, Moore, Schieber, Whipple, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None.

10. Discuss items for September agenda.

Caretaker House

Ponca City Alternative Sports Association

Skate Park

11. Adjourn.

A motion was made by Moore and seconded by Bishop to adjourn the meeting.

Vote was as follows: Yes - Ball, Bishop, Kennedy, Moore, Schieber, Whipple, and Young. No – None. Abstention – None. Motion was approved.