

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARK AND RECREATION BOARD  
OF THE CITY OF NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL WORK ROOM (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor),  
4301 CITY POINT DRIVE  
NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS**

**June 5, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Filis called the meeting to order June 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Present:	Mike Filis	Vice-Chair
	Tracye Tipps	Board Member
	Russell Mitchell	Board Member
	Dianne Spradling	Board Member
	Kenneth Reeves	Board Alternate

Absent:	Marty Kusmierski	Chair
	Suzy Compton	Board Member
	Paul Pena	Board Member

Staff Members:	Vickie Loftice	Managing Director of Community Services
	Bill Thornton	Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
	Adrien Pekurney	Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
	Frank Perez	NRH <sub>2</sub> O General Manager
	Christina Lopez	Office Coordinator
	Gary Bechthold	Parks Superintendent

**B. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Ms. Victoria Nelson, 8021 Shadow Wood Dr, North Richland Hills, TX 76182, provided the following comments: Ms. Nelson thanked the Park and Recreation Board for providing the safety lights at the John Barfield Trail/Smithfield Road crossing. Ms. Nelson also commented about the hours of operation of Tipps Canine Hollow Dog Park. Hours were recently posted at the Dog Park which indicated that the hours of use were from 8:00 a.m. to dusk. She understood that a petition has been submitted regarding the opening time and requested that staff consider opening the park at 7:00 a.m. She said going to the dog park is very important to her family and that she would be available for any discussions on the topic.

**C. ACTION ITEMS**

**C.1 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2017 PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

**APPROVED**

**PARK BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 3, 2017 PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING. BOARD MEMBER SPRADLING SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 4-0.**

**D. PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**D.1 YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS ANNUAL REPORT**

Each year all youth sports associations contracted to use city facilities are required to present an annual report to the Park and Recreation Board. Mr. Darren West, President of the Birdville Area Youth Futbol Alliance presented BAYFA's annual report. Mr. West also introduced Mr. Ken Harmon who has been serving as the associations Coaching Director for a number of years. Mr. Harmon will be taking over the position of President, in the fall, due to the retirement, from the association, of Mr. West. Ms. Adrien Pekurney, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, presented Mr. West with his volunteer appreciation certificate, gift and framed certificate of appreciation for BAYFA's partnership with the City of NRH.

**D.2 DISCUSSION AND INPUT ON THE NORTH RICHLAND HILLS STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE RELATEDS TO THE CURRENT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTION OF THE CITY.**

Vice-Chair Filis commented that this agenda item will not be presented or discussed this evening due to the absence of several Park Board members. Mr. Clayton Comstock, Planning Director, would like to get the Board's input and would like as many Board members as possible to participate. Vice-Chair Filis entertained a motion to postpone this item until the August 7, 2017 meeting.

**PARK BOARD MEMBER SPRADLING MOVED TO POSTPONE AGENDA ITEM D.2 PERTAINING TO THE DISCUSSION AND INPUT ON THE NORTH RICHLAND HILLS STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE TO THE AUGUST 7, 2017 PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING. BOARD MEMBER MITCHELL SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED 4-0.**

**E. DEPARTMENT UPDATES & GENERAL INFORMATION**

**E.1 MANAGING DIRECTOR ITEMS**

Ms. Vickie Loftice, Managing Director of Parks and Recreation updated the board on the following items:

- Northfield Park – Preliminary costs provided for the renovation of Northfield Park have come in higher than expected due to a very tight market for contractors, the amount of work available to them and labor costs. Construction costs have increased by 40%. Staff is working with the architect and professional consultants to reduce some costs and have identified reductions of about \$400,000-\$500,000. As the Board is aware, the Parks and Recreation Department receives \$50,000 from the Barfield Family Foundation each year. The Foundation has committed to provide three years, \$150,000 at this time to help offset the additional costs associated with the development of Northfield Park. Ms. Loftice said there may be some decisions that need to be made regarding priorities for Northfield Park. Staff will continue to work with the consultants to identify reductions where possible. Any substantial changes will be brought back to the Park and Recreation Board for review.
- TA Set-Aside Grant – Staff was notified that we have been awarded the TA-Set-Aside Grant from the North Central Council of Governments in the amount of \$766,000. Work will begin soon on the rapid flashing beacons as well as the other recommendations.
- Medians & Right-of-Ways – Currently, Parks and Recreation does not mow any of the city's medians or right-of-ways. Parks Maintenance does maintain the landscaping on some of the medians through a contract for that service. Parks and Recreation has been asked to look at managing the contract for mowing and maintenance of all the medians and right-of-ways in the city. Staff is currently analyzing all the properties which include 117 different parcels of land. The current contract is managed through Public Works and a contract with Terracare. Funding for the contract will remain in the Public Works Utility Fund.

## **E.2 NRH<sub>2</sub>O FAMILY WATER PARK UPDATE**

Mr. Frank Perez, NRH<sub>2</sub>O General Manager, presented an update on activities at NRH<sub>2</sub>O. Highlights include:

- NRH<sub>2</sub>O has had a great start to their 23<sup>rd</sup> season with the exception of this past weekend with all the rain. For the first time in the parks history, NRH<sub>2</sub>O topped \$1Mil in the month of May.
- Dive In Movies will begin on June 16.
- Fireworks are scheduled again this year with an additional Friday added to the month of July.
- The World's Largest Swim Lesson will be held on Thursday, June 22. NRH<sub>2</sub>O has participated in this event from its inception and was recognized at World Water Park for their continued support of the program.

### **E.3 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON CURRENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

Ms. Adrien Pekurney, Assistant Director, presented an update on activities at the NRH Centre, Athletics, Senior Center, Tennis Center and the Grand Hall. Highlights include:

- The NRH Centre celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an Open House on Friday, June 2 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Grand Hall. Staff saw 70-80 new faces and hopes to continue the tradition of an open house twice a year to give people the opportunity to check out the NRH Centre and Grand Hall.
- Summer programs began the week of June 5.
- Camp NRH is starting a new program this year, Friday Only "Drop In" Option. Due to the limited number of campers that participate on Fridays, staff is providing an opportunity for other kids to participate on a "Drop In" basis. The cost is \$30 and does require pre-registration.
- 'Round the Town with Oscar will be held on Tuesday, June 6 and July 11 at Cross Timbers Park. Start time is 6:30 p.m.
- Early bird registration is open for the 2017 NRH Road Runner 5K. The run will be held on Saturday, October 7. New this year is a NRH Road Runner 5K Training Group led by Mrs. Jill Smith. Mrs. Smith is an avid runner and will be facilitating the training group beginning in August. Registration is required.
- The NRH Senior Center will be celebrating "World Day of Music" at their monthly luncheon to be held on Wednesday, June 21.
- The Northeast Tarrant Family 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration and Fireworks Show will be held on Tuesday, July 4. The event is sponsored by the Cities of Haltom City, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills, and Watauga as well as the event title sponsors: Five Star Ford and North Hills Hospital.
- A new colorful addition to the Signal Art Program made its debut in May at the corner of Blvd 26 and Loop 820, "Queen of Tejano" singer Selena Quintanilla Perez.
- The Grand Hall is doing very well in achieving their revenue projections. Revenues were revised up to \$250,000 and the Centre is expected to reach this goal by the end of the Fiscal Year.

Board Member Mitchell asked if staff is aware of a golf tournament held at the Diamond Oaks Country Club and if the City ever thought about trying to host this type of event. Ms. Loftice said she would talk with Mr. Nathan Gillespy, Iron Horse Manager, to see what the protocol is for hosting such tournaments.

### **E.4 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT ON PARKS CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Mr. Bill Thornton, Assistant Director, presented an update on Parks Capital Projects. Highlights include:

- Northfield Park – Staff anticipates taking the construction contracts to City Council for approval in September. Due to the anticipated construction schedule, dates have been extended on the rental of the pavilion until the end of September.

- A contract was awarded to KOMPAN for the replacement of the Green Valley Playground. Construction of the playground is tentatively scheduled for August of this year.

#### **E.5 PARK MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS UPDATE**

Mr. Gary Bechthold, Parks Superintendent, presented an update on park maintenance projects for April and May highlighting the following projects:

- Irrigation Services – Mr. Bechthold highlighted irrigation services to show the Park and Recreation Board what goes into maintaining the City's irrigation systems. In one week, staff had to replace the booster pump motor at Cross Timbers Park, repair mainline breaks at Norich Park, NRH<sub>2</sub>O, HomeTown Lakes and repair the fountain at Green Valley Park.
- Richfield Park Damage – Someone drove through the Pedestrian Bridge off Buckingham Trail into Richfield Park and through the fence for Field 3 taking out about 100' of fence. RYA had a big tournament scheduled for the next weekend, but staff was able to make all the repairs in time. The person who caused the damage was caught by police.

#### **F. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Vice-Chair Filis noted the Calendar, Park Board Updates and monthly reports in the back of the Park Board packet.

#### **G. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice-Chair Filis adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

  
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Mike Filis, Vice-Chair

ATTEST:

  
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Christina Lopez, Office Coordinator