



## Advisory Board Minutes March 10, 2009

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Kevin Loos, Kelly Barth, Joe Caldwell and Andy Clayton

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Vice Chair Jana Dobbs

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ernie Shaw, Mark Hecker, Roger Steinbrock, Crystal Miles, John McDonald, Heath Bowman, Curt Talken and Kerry Golden

**GUESTS:** Chuck Woodling

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- I. Meeting called to order by Chair Kevin Loos.
  - II. Approval of February 10, 2009 minutes – first by Caldwell, second by Barth.
  - III. No concerns of the Board.
  - IV. Chuck Woodling – Request to rename some Holcom fields after Ralph Houk; Renaming the Holcom fields to Ralph Houk Red, Ralph Houk Blue and Ralph Houk Gold would be a great way to honor Ralph before he passes on. Loos suggested renaming one of the fields after Ralph Houk and leave Holcom Gold and Blue open for future renaming. Clayton suggested talking to Ralph Houk about this to see if he is okay with this. Woodling suggested naming Holcom Gold to Louie Heinrich Gold since there is a Heinrich League in Lawrence. Louie's son, Carl, is an athletic director in Johnson County. Shaw suggested talking to Carl before renaming any field after Louie Henrich – this will need to be done at a different advisory board meeting. Steinbrock said that he tries to provide some history as to people who have parks or ball fields named after them. Clayton made the motion to rename a field after Ralph Houk; Barth second the motion. Motion approved 4-0.
  - V. Advisory Board/Parks & Recreation Public Forum – trying to get a package together to have a public forum in April. Roger is working on a short five minute video to give some background on Parks and Recreation. Will also give a power point presentation on the budget and how we operate on different funds. Open up for questions and then break up into smaller groups for small group discussions with an advisory board member and a parks and recreation staff member taking the lead with the small groups. A survey will also be given to participants of this public forum. Sending out notices through e-mail from our RecTrac database, youth sports division, adult sports, trying to get as many user-groups as possible. Trying to have this at Lawrence High School, centrally located. According to Cynthia, the focus of the forum needs to be looking at the level of service, what is that threshold or tolerance for reduction to level of service if resources should reduce and looking at fees. Loos said it will be critical that all advisory board members attend this forum on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> or Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - VI. IPM Update (Mark & Staff) – Integrated Pest Management – We have 3,500 acres of park land, 53 parks and 43 fulltime staff that works with the park system. Use products

with the least amount of toxicity to profile parks as pesticide free. Always looking for the next best thing to try for going green. About 81% of the parks are pesticide free.

- VII. 2010 Budget Process Calendar dates – budget needs to be approved by August 25<sup>th</sup>.
- VIII. KCMPRD – Bi-annual board appreciation banquet, Thursday March 26 – waiting on two people to say if they are going or not going to the banquet.
- IX. Burroughs Creek Trail update – Hecker reported that they met with the neighborhood group and only complaint is at the 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Parnell Park area. Going to keep the trail on the rail bed. Shaw said that we are still putting a bridge over the creek so people can get off the trail and go into the park. Plans still need to go through KDOT to make sure of the grant money.
- X. Sport 2 Sport field agreement and DCABA light concerns – City and school district renting fields from Roger Morningstar. School district is using fields now through mid-May and then City will use them mid-May for remainder of year. Splitting maintenance between and paying half of costs \$4,800.00 each. We are unable to use any school fields, due to construction. Not using two fields at fairgrounds due to faulty wiring, so those fields are locked up.
- XI. Staff Reports
  - a. Recreation/Golf Revenue/Expense Report – Shaw said February 2009 report was good compared to 2008. Good start for the year. Finalizing details of on-line tee time. Hope to get that going in April. Down a bit in two areas on the recreation side, Special Events and Adult Sports. Need to make more in 2009 than 2008.
  - b. Parks/Project Report – Everything is going full speed. Ball diamonds need to be up, get shelters going, flowers planted, etc. Pansy planting set for March 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Marketing Report – Recognition of donors and volunteers to be held on March 24<sup>th</sup>; public forum on April 13<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>; activity guide will come out on April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- XII. Miscellaneous – Parks and Recreation Department has changed phone carries from Spring/Nextel to T-Mobile. Hecker mentioned that we are looking for projects that are “shovel ready” that we can propose for stimulus money – one of those being the bike path on the south side of Clinton Parkway. Replacing asphalt with concrete – proposing that would be one of the transportation enhancement projects. Board approved project. Shaw reported that Corps of Engineers will be doing road work on the tow road below the dam at Clinton Lake, closing the dog park, but should be okay for Eagle Bend Golf Course. Loos mentioned a letter that has been written to our legislators about the alcohol tax and asked for any input from the other board members. Nobody had any additions.

Meeting adjourned. Next Advisory Board meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 7th at Noon.