

City of Newport  
Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting  
March 16th, 2011  
MINUTES

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Ed Simon at 8:30 a.m.
2. Introduction of New Members: Jim Protiva introduced Jimmy Rodriguez and Nancy Steinberg.
3. Roll Call. Members present were: Ed Simon, Roger Holstein, Nancy Steinberg, Jimmy Rodriguez, and Sandra Roumagoux, City Council liaison. Absent: Susan Boehlert, Sandra Surber, and Karen Smith.

Staff Present: Parks and Recreation Director, Jim Protiva.

4. Approval of Minutes. Nancy moved to approve the minutes of February 15, 2011. Seconded by Jimmy. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.
5. Concerns or Comments from Citizens. None.
6. Report of the Director: Jim noted that things had been moving smoothly at the Rec. Center and added that the Celtic Festival plans continue, and that he and Liam had just met with Georgia Pacific's Community Outreach Committee and discussed partnering with Parks and Rec. for the festival. GP did not make a decision at the time, but the meeting had gone well and they would be waiting to hear from them.

Jim noted that he had recently visited with the owner of a piece of property in South Beach which they have been talking with for years about the potential of putting a trail through his property which would connect to City owned property and Wilder development. He has recently changed his position, partly due to the fact that his property has been designated as a wetlands area and did not want to allow open easement at the time. He did offer the possibility of selling the property to the City or trading it for some other asset, but unfortunately the parks department is not in a real strong position to be buying property right now. There may be options with other land owners and OSU owns a piece that may be a possibility. The grant money that was received for the trail will most likely have to be given back and re-applied for.

7. New Business: Sandra Roumagoux reported after the City Council work session where they discussed FOAC (Friends of the Aquatic Center), she had received 7 phone calls at her home from citizens who wanted the City pool to remain public and to have some funding level for repairs. Jim noted that he had been tasked with contributing to a list of goals for the Council to discuss at their goal-setting session. The exploration of our current and future pool is one issue he would be asking for them to discuss and resolve.
8. Old Business: Jim noted that the agenda for the Council meeting on March 7 included a discussion of privatizing the pool, Rec. Center and its programs. There was some level of thought that giving management to a non-profit would help reduce some of the subsidy that the City was currently expending. The Council discussed the issue and chose to make no change at this time. The Parks and Rec. Committee discussed the ramifications that could occur from the privatization of the Rec. Center and Pool.

Jim informed the Committee that the boat for Coast Park had finally been delivered. Because it was so heavy, a forklift had to be rented to assist with the City's forklift to lift the boat off of the truck and put it in place at the Public Works yard until the park was ready for it. Jim noted that recently it had been discovered that the hill where the boat will be placed doesn't have enough slope for the slide to function. They believe that if some of the hill is cut away, the slide will work.

9. Other: Jimmy asked for an update on the Senior Center. Jim noted that the drainage issue had seemingly been resolved and work on the Center is near completion on the inside and out.
10. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 20th, 2011