

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Belton Park Board of Directors
September 12, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: Bill Tudor, Park Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Scott VonBehren

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Tudor, Mike Miller, Woodrow Dick, Patty Morlok, Scott Von Behren and Jack Colaw. Bruce Chevalier arrived late.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Felicia Thornhill

PREVIOUS BOARD MINUTES: Minutes from the 8-8-11 regular board meeting were approved with a correction as noted. Minutes from the 8-16-11 and 8-21-11 special board meetings were approved as submitted.

PRESIDENT'S COMMUNICATION: Mr. Tudor did not have written communication but would be addressing the Board regarding proposed Bylaws revisions later in the meeting.

COUNCILMAN'S REPORT: Councilman Davis posed several questions to the Board that had come from City Council members. He requested an update on the status of Memorial Park. Mr. Spalding stated that right now ball fields were being graded and then fence work would be done. He also said lots of work was being done right now in preparation for the new community building in the park.

Councilman Davis asked about a concern he had received from a council

PERSONAL APPEARANCE: Tina Sanders and guests appeared before the Board to present observations about Dave Kraft's class at the Wellness Center. They discussed their interest in making his class free with membership like the group exercise classes. They said it would make it more affordable for families. Mr. Spalding explained how the pricing structure had been set initially. Mr. Tudor thanked them for their time and presentation and asked Mr. Spalding to instruct his staff to come up with a plan. Mr. Spalding stated that they were already looking into options.

PARK DIRECTOR AND DEPARTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Spalding stated that it had been another strong month at the Wellness Center. He highlighted lots of things being done at Memorial Park and added that the department was working on a small grand opening for the Inclusive Playground. He also added that work was beginning on the Oil Creek trail project.

Mr. Spalding asked for feedback from the board on the new board newsletter. Consensus was that it was a good start and that they would like to see a newsletter monthly.

STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: In Ms. Thornhill's absence, Mr. Tudor made the motion from committee to adopt the amended budget as presented. During discussion, Councilman Davis asked what had been cut. Mr. Tudor stated that one administrative position had been cut as well as other expenses. Mr. Dick stated

that he was having a hard time finding the actual cuts, adding that he was expecting to see line time cut and this budget had been cut from top to bottom so he had a hard time tracing the cuts through.

Mr. Dick made the motion to send the budget back to committee for review. During discussion, Mr. Tudor stated that he had gone over the budget with Ms. Thornhill and she was okay with the revised budget and acknowledged real cuts. Mr. Tudor called for a roll call vote. ***Motion failed with 4 aye votes (Mr. Miller, Mr. Dick, Mr. Colaw and Mr. Von Behren) and 4 no votes (Mr. Chevalier, Mr. Horner, Mr. Tudor and Ms. Morlok).***

With the motion defeated, Mr. Tudor again presented the motion from finance committee to adopt the amended budget as presented. During further discussion, Mr. Dick voiced concern that was presented in an email to Board members from the finance director, stated that it was not normal to amend the budget as staff had done. Mr. Tudor read further from the email where the finance director said that it was okay to amend the budget in this manner. Mr. Tudor called for a roll call vote and the motion carried with 5 aye votes (Mr. Chevalier, Mr. Horner, Mr. Tudor, Ms. Morlok and Mr. Colaw) and 3 nay votes (Mr. Miller, Mr. Dick and Mr. Von Behren).

Building and Grounds: None.

Personnel: None.

Recreation: None.

Temporary Board Committee Reports:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Tudor stated that he was presented revised Bylaws for the Board to review. He added that he had sent the Bylaws to the city attorney for an opinion. The attorney's comments were noted in the presented Bylaws. Mr. Tudor highlighted the proposed changes to Bylaws #7, #8, and #12. Mr. Dick voiced concern about the proposed change to Bylaw #12 which would allow for meetings to be conducted via teleconference. Mr. Dick said he did not understand why it was so important to make the change. Mr. Chevalier stated it is convenient. Mr. Dick explained his concern was that the change would allow the Board to declare an emergency, as has been done in the past, and call for a phone vote on something.

Mr. Dick made the motion that a Special Committee be appointed to review these bylaw changes and report back to the Board at the next Board meeting. ***Motion carried with 7 aye votes (Mr. Miller, Mr. Chevalier, Mr. Horner, Mr. Tudor, Mr. Dick, Mr. Colaw and Mr. Von Behren) and 1 nay vote (Ms. Morlok).***

Mr. Dick nominated Mr. Horner to chair the Special Committee. Hearing no other nominations, the nominations ceased and a vote was taken. Mr. Horner was unanimously approved to chair the committee. Additional committee members appointed were Mr. Miller, Mr. Tudor and Mr. Dick.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Von Behren announced that Hy-Vee would be presenting its check to the City Council for its Walk in the Park fundraiser that raised \$10,000 for a new shelter in Memorial Park.

Mr. Miller asked if anyone had responded to the letter to the editor in the Kansas City Star regarding the concessions at Markey Park. Mr. Spalding said that no response was necessary.

Mr. Miller stated his concern about incidents at the Skate Park and asked if the department was looking at ways to monitor the activity. Mr. Spalding stated that it was critical that you can't put these kids out where you can't see them, adding that the more we interact with them the better. He pointed out that staff regularly would walk down to the Skate Park to monitor activity. He also added that he had talked with Police Chief Person recently about the park.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:45 pm

Bill Tudor
President