

**The TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
February 3, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hinkle called the meeting of the Park and Recreation Commission of the Town of Apple Valley to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairman Hinkle, Vice-Chairperson Raghada Khoury, Commissioners Michael Martin and Donald Tatera.

Absent: None

INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED COMMISSION MEMBER:

LaVonda Pearson, Town Clerk, performed the Administration of Oath to newly appointed Commission Member Jiles Smith.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Martin

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Selection of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

CHAIRPERSON

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Chairman Hinkle to nominate Vice-Chairperson Khoury for Chairperson. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Hinkle to nominate Commissioner Tatera for Vice-Chairperson. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

2. Approval of Minutes for Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Tatera to approve the minutes for the meeting of December 2, 2010. Motion carried by a 4-0-1-0 vote. Commissioner Smith abstained.

3. Approval of Parks and Recreation Division Monthly Report

Motion by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Hinkle to approve the monthly reports for November and December 2010. Motion carried by a 5-0-0-0 vote.

4. Master Plan Update

Cindy Mendoza of MIG, Inc., discussed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update. She discussed the needs assessment, strategic planning framework, trails and recommendations. She requested that the Commission determine if the plan reflects the needs of the Parks and Recreation Department to achieve the desired level of service.

Commissioner Hinkle recommended establishing a short term timeline on achieving the goals of the plan as opposed to waiting until it's too late.

Commissioner Smith agreed and recommended establishing incremental benchmarks to achieve these goals.

Discussion ensued about acquiring park land and park maintenance costs.

Ms. Mendoza asked if the Commission agreed that the construction of a new multi-purpose community center should be addressed in the plan. Commissioner Martin stated that a new community center and additional space for recreation programs is a priority.

Ms. Mendoza and the Commission discussed future sports fields needs.

Ms. Mendoza asked the Commission if they feel the Town should take the lead on improving Horsemen's Center for equestrian use. The Commission agreed that there is not enough of a demand to recommend those types of improvements.

Program needs were discussed. Ms. Mendoza asked the Commission what they feel the programming needs are. Commissioner Martin stated that nature programs and cultural arts are important. He also stated that a dance facility and stage should be a priority.

Commissioner Hinkle suggested that the property on Sitting Bull Road be developed as a trailhead or sold to the School District since they have campuses in that area.

The Commission discussed the importance of offering more cultural and youth drop in programs at James Woody Park.

The vision statement and goals for parks and recreation were presented and discussed. It was the consensus of the Commission that the following statement best summarizes the mission of parks and recreation in Apple Valley:

"A Better Way to Live and Play."

Ms. Mendoza discussed the trail system in Apple Valley and asked the Commission what role the department should play in trail development.

Commissioner Martin stated that community parks should have connecting trails.

It was the consensus of the Commission that developing a Town-wide trail system is not feasible to include in the Master Plan and that trail development should occur with new development. It was also decided that a map including the proposed trails in relation to projected parks be presented to the other development services departments in order to make developing those trails around those park sites a priority.

The importance of parks and recreation services were discussed along with recommendations on how to fund and provide quality programs and premier facilities.

Commissioner Hinkle asked that the Commission be provided with a copy of the final Community Needs Assessment Report and then review it with their respective Council Members to ensure that the goal for parks and recreation is conveyed.

Discussion ensued about finalizing the Master Plan and identifying funding sources to meet the goals of the plan.

PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER'S REPORT

Ralph Wright, Parks and Recreation Manager discussed the new playground at Civic Center Park which will open in approximately one week. He also mentioned that other amenities such as benches, picnic tables, a restroom building and dog park will be in by summer 2011.

Mr. Wright updated the Commission on the dug out renovations at James Woody Park, the renovation of the skate park, soccer tournaments at the Lenny Brewster Sports Center, the youth basketball league and upcoming Healthy Apple Valley programs.

He also discussed the possible expansion of the Police Activities League Teen Center to include a drop-in program and the success of the Police Department sub-station at the James Woody Community Center.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Smith discussed a possible partnership he is working on with the Phoenix Academy to participate in the Town's youth basketball program due to the school's programs being cut.

Commissioner Martin inquired about whether or not there was any major storm damage to Horsemen's Center. Mr. Wright stated that there was some damage to the arenas which have since been repaired. There was no permanent damage to any of the parks.

SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Hinkle seconded by Vice-Chairman Tatera and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

TOWN CLERK