

**PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 13, 2007**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Carlson opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Committee Members present: Chair Terry Carlson, Vice Chair Eugene Earney, Brad Schnitzler, Kristi Uphoff and Planning Commission Liaison Scott Marotz. Also Present: Public Works Director Michael Goebel, Council Member Lori Kampa and Dan Loegering, Doug Hayes and Mike Sickmann of the Big Lake Sports Association. Committee Members absent: Denise McDowall Seyko and Council Liaison Patricia May.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member Schnitzler motioned to accept the October 15, 2007 minutes as presented. Seconded by Committee Member Earney, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

3. OLD BUSINESS

3A. DISCUSS ATHLETIC COMPLEX

Committee Member Earney made a motion to have staff pursue having Mr. Jim DeChene sign a first right of refusal for the land he is considering selling to the City of Big Lake, up to 80 acres for the proposed Athletic Complex. Seconded by Planning Commission Liaison Marotz, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Public Works Director Goebel distributed a sketch showing dimensions and layout of the proposed Athletic Complex which include parking lots, entrances/exits, tennis courts, basketball courts, playground area, football/soccer fields, ball fields, a storage building and a trail. Discussion followed. Notable items of discussion include, fencing around the ball fields for tournaments along with a gated entrance for events that cost, possibly adding batting cages and pitching areas, the need to have the playground more centrally located along with increasing its size, the need for restrooms/concession stands, room for portable bleachers, additional parking spaces and a picnic area. Public Works Director Goebel will have the sketch redrawn for the next Parks Advisory Committee Meeting.

(the order of discussion was changed)

6. NEW BUSINESS

6A. DAN LOEGERING – BASEBALL PARK UP-DATE

Dan Loegering, Doug Hayes and Mike Sickmann were present, representing the Big Lake Sports Association. Mr. Loegering presented a working draft of the proposed layout of the sports complex to be located east of town along Highway 10. Mr. Loegering reviewed their plans for soliciting donations from area businesses and the community. All contributions to the Big Lake Sports Association are tax deductible under section 501 (c) (3), of the Internal Revenue Code. The Big Lake Sports Association is inquiring in what way the City would like to be involved in this project. Discussion followed. The consensus of the Parks Advisory Committee is for the Big Lake Sports Association to present their idea to the Big Lake City Council for their direction. Committee Member Schnitzler made a motion in support of the concept of the Big Lake Sports Association. Seconded by Committee Member Earney, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works Director Goebel distributed a handout from Northwest Associated Consultants, Inc. (NAC) for the Parks Advisory Committees information. The memorandum will be discussed at the City Council Meeting on November 14, 2007. The memorandum pertains to Commercial and Industrial Park Dedication. Currently, City Staff is seeking direction from the City Council to determine is any policy changes towards Commercial/Industrial Park Dedication are desired.

Committee Member Schnitzler made a motion to set a special meeting, The Annual Committee Workshop date of Wednesday, December 5, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at Russell's on The Lake, located at 111 Jefferson Boulevard. Seconded by Committee Member Carlson, unanimous ayes, motion carried.

5. STAFF UPDATE – None

7. ADJOURN

Committee Member Schnitzler motioned to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Seconded by Committee Member Carlson, unanimous ayes, motion carried.