



**City of Newport  
Park Board Meeting  
February 28, 2013**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

Board Members present – Tom Aguilar-Downing; Marge Meconis; Anita Perkins; Emily White; Laura Duffey

Board Members absent – Mary Ann Newman;

Also present –John Neska, Executive Director;

**3. APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MINUTES**

**A. Park Board Minutes of January 24, 2013 Regular Meeting**

**Anita Perkins** – I found a typo under number 3 where Executive Director Neska states “Their terms we up for renewal,” it should be “were.”

**Motion by White, seconded by Perkins, to approve the Park Board Minutes of January 24, 2013 as amended. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.**

**B. Park Board Minutes of February 13, 2013 Workshop**

**Anita Perkins** – Under my report, I don’t remember us wanting to do that \$5 gift card, was that just an idea?

**Marge Meconis** – I think that was just an idea.

**Anita Perkins** – So we would need to discuss that further. Also, on the top, where it says “Thanks to the Fire Department,” the last sentence that says “Next year place so that one side doesn’t have the advantage.” It reads a bit funny.

**Marge Meconis** – I had the same one underlined.

**Executive Director Neska** – Do you mean place a line?

**Chairperson Aguilar-Downing** – Yes.

**Marge Meconis** – I have a question at the very end where we’re talking about having a teacher be on the governance committee. Who suggested if the City had funds to pay for a teacher?

**Laura Duffey** – That was just a question to look into, not a suggestion.

**Motion by White, seconded by Duffey, to approve the Park Board Minutes of February 13, 2013 as amended. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.**

**4. REVIEW 2013 GOALS**

**Chairperson Aguilar-Downing** – This is a continuing discussion from our workshop. The way I see it is there are three areas for the goals: Program, Facility and Administrative Goals. I'd like to go through the goals one at a time.

The Park Board reviewed and discussed the 2013 goals as outlined in the February 28, 2013 packet. Updates are as follows:

#### **Program Goals:**

- **Winter Family Fun Night:** Newport on the Move and the Newport Athletic Association volunteered at the event. It went fairly well and will be continued next year.
- **Adopt-a-Park Volunteer Recruiting:** The Park Board will continue to recruit volunteers. It is recommended to purchase liter sticks for the volunteers.
- **Support NAA Baseball League:** The Park Board will announce games and support the baseball league during the meetings.
- **Adopt-a-Park Volunteer Appreciation Potluck:** It is anticipated that the potluck will be on May 19, 2013 at Loveland Park. The invites will be going out in April.
- **Family Camp Out:** The family camp out will be June 22-June 23, 2013. There will be nature activities and a campfire. Families will be responsible for bringing their own tents and food.
- **Pioneer Day:** Pioneer Day will be August 11, 2013. The Park Board will have a booth at the event.
- **Program at Pedestrian Park:** This is a new event that the Park Board would like to host at the Pedestrian Park near Tinucci's. There are possible grants for the event.
- **Natural History Walk at Loveland Park:** This will be September 28, 2013 at Loveland Park.
- **Buckthorn Pull:** This will take place on October 26, 2013 at Bailey School Forest.
- **Update of Bailey School Forest Interpretive Piece:** Laura Duffey created an interpretive piece for the Bailey School Forest that outlines the twelve posts that are placed throughout the Forest and provides information on them. Ms. Duffey will continue to work on this and will contact Renee Helm to place it on the City's website and distribute it to the School District.
- **Geocaching Course at Bailey and Loveland:** The Park Board will look into establishing a geocaching course at Bailey School Forest and Loveland Park.

#### **Facility Goals**

- **Hastings Avenue Planters:** The Park Board would like to redesign the planters and select new flowers for the planters. The Park Board will send letters to the Bailey Foundation regarding this.
- **Natural Plantings at Overlook Park:** The Park board would like to redesign the plantings.
- **Signage at Frances Henry James Pocket Park:** The Park Board would like to install a sign at this park.
- **Solar Panels at Phillips Pavilion:** These will be installed in the spring.
- **Skateboard Facilities:** There has been interest in developing a skateboard facility in the community. Executive Director Neska indicated that a study was completed a couple of years ago and that it would cost approximately \$150,000 to remodel the existing tennis court into a skateboard facility. Chairperson Aguilar-Downing will contact communities that have skateboard facilities to see if they are being utilized.
- **Finish Parking Lot Resurfacing at Loveland:** The parking lot will be completed this year.
- **Resurface Tennis/Basketball Courts at Loveland:** The tennis and basketball court will be resurfaced this spring.

#### **Administrative Goals**

- **Codify Park Board's Function and Responsibility:** This is outlined in Section 320 and was created in 2004. The Park Board is a resource to the Council and recommends financial or capital items to them. The Council also requests guidance from the Park Board in regards to goals. This item has been removed from the list of goals.
- **Develop an Email/Blog process for the Board:** The Park Board will review the open meeting laws in regards to emails or blogs. It is recommended that the Administrator issue correspondences between the Board members so that it does not violate the law. It was requested that the Attorney provide feedback.

- **Continue Meetings of Joint Governance Committee:** These meetings will continue in 2013.

## 5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

### A. Overview of 2013 Winter Family Fun Night

**Chairperson Aguilar-Downing** – The Winter Family Fun Night was well attended, there were about 60 individuals. There was good publicity for the event. I'd like to thank Bonnie Karas for getting information out.

**Executive Director Neska** – Were you able to handle the 60?

**Chairperson Aguilar-Downing** – Yes, we could probably double it. The Newport Athletic Association was very helpful with the event. They are having a sign-up for the summer baseball league on Saturday, March 9 at City Hall. My last item is a letter that came in through City Hall from Lee Bilderback. The letter requested that information on our events be distributed to Red Rock Manor as well, so we will do that. Also, in your packet was a calendar of events for Park Board items.

## 6. BOARD REPORTS

**Marge Meconis** – We were wondering about usage at the School Forest. I looked at the District and saw that about 500 students went there between September and December. There is heavier usage in the spring. The Natural Science Academy also visits the Forest and they have about 50 students.

**Anita Perkins** – No Report

**Emily White** – No Report

**Laura Duffey** – No Report

## 7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Executive Director Neska** – The skating rinks will be closed for the season beginning Monday, March 4.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by White, seconded by Meconis, to adjourn the Park Board Meeting at 8:03 P.M. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent, the motion carried.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Aguilar-Downing, Chairperson

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Helm  
Executive Analyst