



**City of Newport
Park Board Meeting
November 29, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

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

Board Members absent –

Also present –Tim Geraghty, Mayor;

3. APPROVAL OF PARK BOARD MINUTES

A. Park Board Minutes of September 27, 2012

Marge Meconis – I had two corrections for the September 27 minutes. Laura Duffey is listed as absent but she was here. Second, on the first page where Mayor Geraghty is talking about who was going to speak at the dedication, District 833 should be added after it says “Assistant Superintendent.”

Anita Perkins – There is also a typo under Chairperson’s Report. It says “So cross of the October” it should be “off.”

Motion by Aguilar-Downing, seconded by White, to approve the Park Board Minutes of September 27, 2012 as amended. With 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

B. Park Board Minutes of October 10, 2012

Chairperson Newman – Something should be added at the bottom that says they were written and recorded by me.

Motion by Aguilar-Downing, seconded by Perkins, to approve the Park Board Minutes of October 10, 2012 as amended. With 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

4. REVIEW 2012 GOALS

The Park Board reviewed and discussed the 2012 goals. Updates are as follows:

- **New River Overlooks – 12th Street and Park Place:** This goal will be moved under the Volunteer Program goal.
- **Volunteer Program:** This goal will continue in 2013.
- **Buckthorn Eradication:** The event took place on October 27, 2012.
- **Pioneer Days:** This event took place on August 12, 2012 and the Park Board had a booth at the event.
- **Review Bancor Development:** This goal is on hold until further notice.
- **Frances and Henry James Park:** This goal is on hold until further notice.
- **Loveland, Pioneer, Lions Parks:** Half of the parking lot was resurfaced in 2012, the remainder and the tennis courts will be resurfaced in 2013.

- **Develop Mississippi Park Master Plan:** This goal is on hold until further notice.
- **Bailey Forest:** The pavilion was built in 2012 and a dedication took place on September 29, 2012.
- **History/Parks Fun Walk:** The walk was held September 29, 2012.
- **Address Google Maps of Park System:** Tom is still working with TKDA and Google on this goal.
- **Park Place Overlook:** This goal was discontinued.
- **Summer Camp-Out:** This was held on Saturday, June 30.

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

A. Request from New-Park Lions

Chairperson Newman – The New-Park Lions Club has adopted Pioneer Park the last couple years and has requested to install a sign in Pioneer Park stating that. The Club will purchase and the City will install the sign.

Motion by Aguilar-Downing, seconded by White, to approve the installation of a sign in Pioneer Park by the New-Park Lions. With 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

B. Discussion Regarding Winter Carnival in Loveland Park

Tom Aguilar-Downing – I spoke with Brian and we're going to move it to Lions Park since it's more accessible to kids. The event will be held in the afternoon of February 9, 2013. It'll be a skating party with some music, a bonfire, hot chocolate and smores.

Emily White, Marge Meconis, Laura Duffey and Newport on the Move will work with Tom in organizing this event. The event will be called "Winter Family Fun Night."

6. BOARD REPORTS

Chairperson Newman – There will be no December meeting. The January meeting will be on January 24 where we will be nominating and appointing a chair and vice-chair for 2013.

Tom Aguilar-Downing – At the September meeting I had asked where the additional money for the pavilion came from and someone was going to look into that. I spoke with Brian and he said it was an anonymous donor. John, did you hear anything back from the Washington Conservation District?

Executive Director Neska – I have not, I will follow up on that.

Marge Meconis – Nothing to report

Anita Perkins – Nothing to report

Emily White – I have a couple items. First, the pond down at 10th Avenue and 17th Street, is there a way that someone could go in and clean the area? I noticed that there was a lot of trash in that area.

Executive Director Neska – In the past I've had STS crews come in and clean up, however this year they've been pretty busy so we haven't had a chance to have them come clean. I'll put that on my list.

Emily White – Secondly, where the planters are on 10th Avenue by the bench, could a garbage can be put there as well?

Executive Director Neska – Yes.

Emily White – Finally, we had talked several months ago about changing the meeting time to 6:30, what did we decide on that?

Tom Aguilar-Downing – That would be difficult for me with coming from Minneapolis.

Emily White – Ok.

Laura Duffey – A couple weeks ago, I met with a couple residents about promoting the education and appreciation of the natural resources in Newport. It was a long discussion about where we think citizens are at and what they might respond to. One idea we had is based on a DNR project. A couple years ago, the DNR had an education project that took place at the State Capitol and it seemed to be very effective with little cost. It was an education campaign to help residents understand what their trees are worth. The project would make large price tags to hang on trees with information about it and what it's worth. We were thinking that would be a neat project and I could probably do that. I've already started a list of trees around Newport that we could hang these on. They would stay up for a couple weeks. Another idea that we had was having the Park Board do an educational article in each newsletter that it would pay for. The Park Board would pay the difference for including the article/insert.

Chairperson Newman – How about we discuss those ideas when we discuss our 2013 goals.

Emily White – How many newsletters go out every time?

Chairperson Newman – Renee would know that.

Executive Director Neska – It's probably around 1,200.

Laura Duffey – Finally, Buckthorn Day was October 27 and it was fairly successful. I think we had about 50 people show up. Super Mom's donated the donuts and John came with the water and trucks. I thought it was nice that the middle school students showed up. I think I'll continue to contact middle schools for future events.

Chairperson Newman – I sent thank you letters to everyone.

Tom Aguilar-Downing – I think you did a wonderful job and it was nice to see all of the new volunteers. SWCTC was there as well and interviewed a couple of the volunteers.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Neska – In case Anita, Marge and Emily aren't reappointed I would like to thank them for all of their hard work.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Meconis, seconded by Duffey, to adjourn the Park Board Meeting at 7:35 P.M. With 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

Signed: _____
Mary Ann Newman, Chairperson

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Helm
Executive Analyst