

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in a joint work session with the Parks and Recreation Board at 6:30 p.m., in the Law Enforcement Center at 2121 L. Don Dodson on the 7th day of January 2010 with the following members present:

Jim Story	Mayor
Chris Brown	Council Members
Ray Champney	
Lori Nail	
Roger Fisher	
Roy Savage	

Constituting a quorum.

Roy Turner was absent during tonight's meeting.

Staff present included:

Beverly Queen	City Manager
Steve Johnson	Deputy City Manager
Shanae Jennings	City Secretary
Mirenda McQuagge-Walden	Managing Director of Community Services

CALL TO ORDER/GENERAL COMMENTS

Mayor Story called the work session to order at 6:30 p.m.

WORK SESSION

1) Discuss, review and provide direction regarding the proposed Master Plan of the Boys Ranch Park.

Mirenda McQuagge-Walden, Managing Director of Community Services, provided a general overview of items for discussion tonight.

James Hughes, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation and Leigh Morgan, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation, provided an overview of the parks in Bedford. Mr. Hughes presented a Power Point presentation and a copy of that presentation is available upon request in the City Secretary's Office. The City of Bedford has 128.5 acres of park land. The use of Meadowpark adds 11 acres and the parks range in size from 0.5 acres to 68 acres at the Boys Ranch. Specifically the land acreage is as follows:

- Monterrey Park - .5 acres
- Carousel Park - 1 acre
- Central Park - 5 acres
- Brook Hollow Park - 9 acres
- Stormie Jones Park -13 acres
- Bedford Trails/Linear Park – 32 acres
- Boys Ranch Park – 68 acres

Areas of utilization focused upon include:

- Boys Ranch Utilization
- Senior Center Utilization
- Athletic Utilization (baseball, soccer, etc.)

Rough estimates of utilization broken down by numbers include:

- BRAC – 53,504
- Sr. Center – 26,752
- Splash – 37,484
- Baseball – 44,700
- Soccer – 11,250

Total utilization = 173,690

Parking was of major interest within the new Master Plan. Within the Boys Ranch the parking spaces were reduced from 1,012 to 732. Currently, parking spots represent 5.5 acres at the Boys Ranch.

All aspects of the parks system are being assessed to see where changes can be made within the Master Plan.

A major item of discussion included the needs as they relate to various ages and field sizes as it pertains to Tri-Cities Baseball. Additionally, what will the maintenance of this plan be over time as it ages?

Overall the Council and the Parks and Recreation Board were pleased with the Plan as it is being proposed.

Possible changes include moving the sand volleyball court out of Boys Ranch to Central Park and to reincorporate the disc golf into the Boys Ranch. There is an overall consensus on these changes; otherwise, they are pleased with the Plan the way it currently exists.

2) Discussion regarding the potential for a dog park.

There have been several requests for a dog park within the City of Bedford. Lisa McMillan shared with the Council and Park Board the information they have collected regarding a dog park. It was indicated that a dog park has been on the Bedford Parks Board Master Plan list of future projects for several years. Brookhollow Park is used by many as an off-leash park resulting in several citizens from the neighborhood approaching the Parks Board about the issue. Dog parks are being established in surrounding cities and many Bedford residents want the same amenities here. Budget items to consider include: Cost of land, parking, fencing and gates, irrigation, transition areas (double gated), water stations, amenities (benches, tables, agility structures, shade), lighting, grass, trash receptacles and the cost of operation and maintenance. It has been indicated that the largest expense of a dog park is the parking area. The Park Board is recommending Meadow Park as a location for the proposed dog park. This location provides four to seven acres along a utility easement and behind fields to make it a viable option, and it does not take away from existing park uses.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Story adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Jim Story, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shanae Jennings, City Secretary