

Collin County
Myers Park and Event Center Advisory Board
Minutes
January 27, 2015

Item No. 1 Call to Order

Rutledge Haggard called to order the meeting of the Myers Park and Event Center Advisory Board at 7:40 a.m. The following board members were present: Rutledge Haggard, Norman Gidney, Steven Wright, Stephen Kallas and Chris Kern. Myers Park staff present was Judy Florence, Mark Page, Amanda Love, Jennifer Rogers, and Joanie Bishop. Absent were Board Member Marianne Wells.

Item No. 2 Welcome Guests

All Board Members and Myers Park staff were welcomed together.

Item No. 3 Welcome and Introduction of newest Board Member, Chris Kern

We welcomed our new board member Chris Kern to the Myers Park family.

Item No. 4 Review and Action to approve October 29, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Haggard made a motion to approve the October 29, 2014 Meeting Minutes, second by Mr. Wright.

Item No. 5 Open discussion on Myers Park Plan

Ms. Florence reported she went to court on December 15, 2014 to recap before the commissioners that they approved plans for a new pavilion two years ago with the Open Space money. The pavilion is to be a 30' x 40' space with picnic tables, providing a shaded structure for events with Master Gardeners, Boy Scouts, various picnics, and this will lighten the rental demands on the Pole Barn. In Court, Commissioner Hill stated that he was concerned about putting up any permanent structures without having a Park Plan revealing the direction the Park is headed. Ms. Florence explained that we have had several Plans submitted in the past but none have been accepted due to costs. Ms. Florence would like to try to put together one more plan. She is asking the Board and Myers Park Staff for suggestions and ideas with vision on the direction of the Park. A meeting has been set for the Board to get together with Myers Park Staff on February 24 at 4:00 pm to further discuss Park Plans. Also, with the surrounding neighborhoods building up, this will cause more demands on the Park. A Park Plan that will allow us to keep up with these demands and higher traffic volume coming through is vital.

Item No. 6 Update on Myers Park General Items

Mr. Page reported at the County Junior Livestock Show there were not many buyers and supporters from the community to bid on animals. Ms. Love reported that in order to help with directional signs for the Park an antique trailer from the Farm Museum was situated at the corner of 1461 and County Road 166. Ms. Love decorated the trailer for the various holidays with pumpkins, wreaths and garland. A different piece of museum equipment may be brought in for the summer. Ms. Florence reported recent personnel change included Jimmy Bradley resigned his position as a full time Groundskeeper to accept outside employment. His full time position was filled by William Pearce. Mr. Bradley was laid off from his new job recently and has applied for the part time/weekend groundskeeper position that was recently vacant and will be starting in February. Ms. Florence noted that the part time weekend groundskeeper position has become a difficult position to keep filled. Ms. Florence will request this position go to full time. Ms. Love is currently working on a project to hold an "Open House" to help promote the amphitheater. She is contacting various vendors such as a band, food trucks, car dealers, high schools, Master Gardeners, Boy Scouts to volunteer their time to hold a station or booth with activities, and ending the evening with a family movie night by bringing in a big screen at the amphitheater and showing a family friendly movie. Ms. Florence said the update with the paving of the Park roads has been promised for spring. It has become a merit concern with not just staff, but with many customers. With the budget Ms. Florence and Mr. Page reported that our rental revenue continue to grow comparing to the last four years. This includes number of events and event attendance. Ms. Florence noted the need to meet with Facilities regarding various work orders that need completed and discuss the project of the Show Barn concrete. Other Park projects are parking issues which this project will be worked on in the spring. From the Parks and Open Space fund, stairs from the Farm Museum parking area to the Perennial Gardens have been approved. Also approved is an additional Maintenance Building which will free up the Farm Museum to expand to the full size of the building, instead of maintenance items sharing the back space of the Farm Museum. With the plan of the Baxter Buildings being demolished due to the fact that they are beyond repair, Ms. Love said they would like to hold onto items such as the tin, windows, doors, some of the wood and incorporate these items into new buildings being built at the Park.

Item No. 7 Update on Farm Museum

Ms. Rogers reported that the Farm Museum has been educationally focused with the many workshops currently being held and planned for this year. With the workshops that have been held there have been 50% attendance and 50% cancelled. The soap-making class has been very successful and there is currently a waiting list. The cheese-making class is almost full. The workshops are on the Myers Park calendar and the County website, and are sent out electronically online or by mail. The educational catalog will be updated every three months. Ms. Rogers will be planning kids' classes in the spring. She has sent out the educational catalog to area schools and teachers, and has been receiving positive feedback. Some schools and daycares are asking for more and additional information on these workshops. Ms. Rogers have several school and daycare tours for the museum booked. Ms. Rogers did an interview with the Plano Profile Magazine about the soap-making and the sock teddy bear workshops; this interview will be in the February issue. Ms. Rogers reported the work on the roof of the museum is complete and there are no leaks; just need to paint the walls.

Item No. 8 Update on recent and future events at Myers Park

Mr. Page reported that everything went smoothly with the Collin County Jr Livestock Show the first week of January. It has been noted that the schools attending are expanding in size with the FFA programs growing. There are more people involved and space at the Show Barn is a concern. The County Show may have to extend to an extra day next year. The Collin County Master Gardeners will be holding their annual garden show the weekend of March 21 to 22, 2015. More information with photos of past garden shows are on their website: ccmgatx.org/theGardenShow/.

Item No. 9 Possible future agenda items

A meeting to discuss the Park Plan is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 24 at 4:00 p.m.** at The Landing. Our next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 7:30 a.m.** at The Landing at Myers Park.

Item No. 10 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.