

City of Lafayette
City Council Meeting Minutes
Special Session
September 17, 2009
6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Chris Heisler called the meeting to order at City Hall at 6:30 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE: Mayor Chris Heisler led the flag salute.

3. ROLL CALL: Diane Rinks, City Administrator, called the roll.

Present: Mayor Chris Heisler, Chris Pagella, Leah Harper, Dean Rhodes, Bob Cullen, Michael Roberts, and Nicholas Harris.

Absent: None.

City Staff Present: Diane Rinks - City Administrator.

Others Present: Christine Gregory, Linda Lyon, Doug Carpenter, Joan Woodford, Chuck Woodford, Doug Huston, Marie Sproul, Darrell Flood, Trevor Higby, Al LeMay, Mary Heisler, Don Leard, Sheri Bernal, Wendy Hackman, Heather Brown, Danielle Young, Brenton Camac, Patricia Rhodes, Cecil Davis, Dan Buell, Cindy Buell, George Meitzen, and approximately 4 others.

4. WORKSESSION RE: PARKS:

Mayor Chris Heisler said that the purpose of the meeting tonight is to have a worksession about the City's parks. A significant amount of money has been budgeted for park improvements this year, and the Council wanted to get input from the citizens before making any decisions on the improvements to be done.

Wendy Hackman, 1366 Cramner St.- said that she would like to see the park in Lafayette Plantation (Tract F) improved (timers for sprinklers and a swing or slide). She also supported putting the basketball at the 12th/Bridge Street.

Doug Houston, 365 Cosmo St.- said that he also wanted to see the park in Lafayette Plantation improved. He suggested using the park property at 12th/Bridge for a community garden.

Doug Carpenter, 1447 Cramner St.- said that he is reluctant to recommend installing play equipment in the park in Lafayette Plantation. He lives next to this park and is concerned about vandalism (to the equipment and his property). He suggested putting the money into Perkins Park instead.

Cindy Buell, 176 W. 15th St.- she asked the Council to consider the placement of the amenities being discussed (play equipment, basketball court, etc.), keeping families with kids in different age groups in mind.

Christine Gregory, 1019 Bridge St.- said that she lives next door to the park property at 12th/Bridge St., and has concerns about noise, kids coming into her property, and her dogs barking.

Al LeMay, 1155 N. Madison St.- said that a few people have gotten together and formed a small parks committee (4-7 members). He distributed some information about the committee (mission, goals, etc.) and some information about all of the parks. The committee also formulated a parks survey, and he provided the results from the survey. Discussion ensued. He asked the Council to consider establishing a formal committee dedicated to parks.

John Eskins, 375 8th St.- said that he would like to see stop signs at all four corners surrounding the parks. He would also like to keep the existing trees at Perkins Park.

Lavette Parks, 830 14th St.- said that she really likes the improvements to Commons Park, her kids played ball there, and she would like to see a basketball court put back somewhere.

Linda Lyon, 1143 N. Madison St.- suggested not putting a fence back in Perkins Park when the old one is taken down.

Cindy Eskins, 375 8th St.- said that because there are no stop signs at the bottom end of the park, the fencing is necessary to protect the kids.

Dean Rhodes encouraged the Council to make a decision and do something. From the feedback he's gotten from the community and at this meeting, he suggested putting playground equipment in the Lafayette Plantation (Tract F) park, and start on the improvements to Perkins Park (grading and retaining wall).

Diane Rinks reviewed the Parks and Recreation SDC Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Update proposal from Don Ganer (FCS Group). This will allow for an updated parks project list to be added to the CIP, and therefore become SDC eligible. This amendment will cost \$2,500.

Chris Pagella asked how much of the total amount dedicated to parks improvements is SDC money, and Diane Rinks said \$153,000. Discussion ensued.

Darrell Flood, 287 Canyon View Dr.- wanted to know if \$2,500 is spent to update the CIP list, how much do we have in parks SDC funds? Diane Rinks said it would be \$153,000.

Bob Cullen made a motion to accept the proposal from FCS Group (Don Ganer) to amend the parks SDC Capital Improvement Project list, for a not to exceed cost of \$2,500. Michael Roberts seconded the motion. Discussion- Chris Pagella said that he doesn't understand why this motion would be made without a plan. After further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Nick Harris made a motion to direct staff to plan for a retaining wall at Perkins Park, and bring a proposal back to the Council at the next meeting. Dean Rhodes seconded the motion. Diane Rinks said that the first step is getting the list of projects done, and once the list is compiled, then proposals for projects can be put together.

Nick Harris rescinded his motion. Dean Rhodes rescinded his second.

The following lists were compiled for improvements to the different parks.

Perkins Park

- Retaining wall and grading plan
- Change language from play 'structure' to 'equipment' (to include merry go round, etc.)
- Picnic tables and benches
- Remove the items that have been completed- drinking fountain, re-seed lawn areas (because this falls under landscaping).

There was some discussion about adding a basketball court to the project list at Perkins Park, the Council was polled, and Chris Pagella and Leah Harper said yes, and Bob Cullen, Michael Roberts, Dean Rhodes, and Nicholas Harris said no.

Tract F (Lafayette Plantation)

- Play Structure/Equipment
- Irrigation Improvements
- Picnic tables, benches, trash receptacle
- Fencing
- Signage

A short break was taken at 8:35 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 8:47 p.m.

New Park at 1055 Bridge Street

- Greenway
- Soccer field
- Basketball Court
- Community Garden
- Fencing
- Irrigation
- Landscaping
- Sidewalks
- Parking
- Benches, tables, trash receptacle

- Play structure/equipment
- Drinking Fountain
- Restrooms
- Lighting
- Picnic pavilion
- Bicycle “stop”
- BBQ, tables, etc.
- Dog Park

Commons Park

- Soccer goals
- Remove the items that have been completed- Install irrigation, Signage, Trash receptacles, and Backstop.

Terry Park

- Dog Park
- Parking (30-50 stalls)
- Skate Park
- BMX track
- Road improvements and access

Community Pride Park

- Ground effects lighting
- Fencing

Mayor Chris Heisler asked the Council if they would be interested in establishing a parks committee to assist with future parks projects. The consensus of the Council is that the Mayor could establish an advisory committee to him and report the findings of the committee back to the Council (rather than have an official City committee).

5. ADJOURNMENT: Dean Rhodes made a motion to adjourn. Nicholas Harris seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Minutes approved on this 8TH day of October, 2009.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:

Mayor Chris Heisler

Diane Rinks, City Administrator