

CITY OF LAFAYETTE
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR
FEBRUARY 17, 2011

Call to Order: Beth Cooke called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

Roll Call: Lori Martino called the roll.

Present: Samuel Dunn, Doug Cook, Ronald Kerr, Beth Cooke and Jesse Huffman.

Absent: Marian Chasse (excused), Todd Holt (excused).

Staff Present: Jim Jacks- City Planner and Lori Martino-Community Development Clerk.

Others: None

Approval of Minutes:

Moved to the end of meeting.

Work Session: Goal Setting

Jim Jacks gave a brief summary of the information provided in the Planning Commissioners packet.

Jim Jacks asked the commissioners to give a brief summary of what they thought about the parks, whether it be current or future improvements.

Jesse Huffman noted that he liked the improvements that were done with Joel Perkins Park. He said that a dog park may be something to look into.

Beth Cooke noted that she also liked the addition to Joel Perkins however it is not very ADA accessible. Identifying safe routes to and from the parks should be part of the planning process, whether it is by walking paths, bike paths, etc.

Ron Kerr noted that the city moves forward by figuring out what to incorporate into the plan, finding out what facilities are wanted within the parks and how improvements can be done in a cost effective way.

Doug Cook noted that the city has a lot of park land designated, it is just a matter of trying to prioritize, identifying what would be most effective and seeing what the public wants. He also noted that there were some parts of town that did not have any parks nearby.

There was further discussion regarding public input and the improvements that the community would like to see. There was discussion on the interest of skate parks.

Sam Dunn noted that the streets, sidewalks and streets are sketchy around the parks.

There was a discussion about Parks System Development Charges and what they could be used for.

There was a discussion regarding traffic issues in Lafayette.

The Planning Commission discussed grant options that included the State Lotto funds and State Parks Department.

There was a discussion regarding types of parks that included tennis courts, soccer fields, etc. and where and how these properties could be obtained.

Lori Martino noted that she would look into some grant information from the State Parks Department.

The Planning Commission decided that sidewalks, pathways and walkways along the river at Terry Park would be a good place to start.

Doug Cook noted that he would like to see an acquisition of land in the Northeast part of the City.

The Planning Commission discussed ways to get the word out to residents for park ideas. Some of the ideas mentioned were the schools Tuesday folders and possibly boy scouts and/or boy scouts going door to door. They also discussed looking into having a meeting at Wascher Elementary.

Sam Dunn questioned if donations could be given to the city for parks and it could be used as a tax deduction. It was questioned on whether or not it could be a tax deduction since the City was not a non-profit organization. Beth Cooke suggested that it could be a recommendation to the City Council to start a Community Foundation that is non-profit.

Approval of Minutes:

Doug Cook made a motion to approve the January 20, 2011 meeting minutes. Ronald Kerr seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Lori Martino noted that she would not be able to attend the meeting in April. She questioned if the Planning Commission wanted to have the meeting on the 21st as scheduled or change the date of the meeting. The Planning Commission discussed meeting dates and tentatively scheduled the meeting in April to the 28th. Lori Martino noted that she would make sure that the Council was not having a meeting that night.

Jim Jack gave an overview of the hearing that would be taking place the following month.

Adjourn: Doug Cook made a motion to adjourn. Jesse Huffman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.