



City of Covington
Parks & Recreation Commission
Minutes

April 18, 2012

City Council Chambers

6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL Present: Kollin Higgins, Conni Elliott, Steve Pand, William Pand, Bryan Higgins, Liz Fast

Excused Absent: Dave Aldous,

CITY STAFF PRESENT Scott Thomas

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The March minutes were approved as amended.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens were present.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

There was no continued business

**NEW
BUSINESS**

1. **Plan for Earth Day**—the event will be 9am-11am on this Saturday, April 21. The priority is tree planting, maintenance of the decennial grove, scotch broom removal, removal of blackberry bushes between trees or that cannot be mowed, and then dragging the holly to the rubbish bins. CM Kollin Higgins, Steve and William Pand, Liz Fast and David Aldous will attend. Scott would like pictures; Liz volunteered.
2. **Annual PROS Plan Review, What's Next?**—Scott distributed Executive Summaries of the PROS Plan. King Conservation District lost some of their funding, which included \$50,000 of a \$100,000 grant we were counting on. This changes the scope and scale of the trail system. The city of Covington has obtained the right of first refusal on the Covington Elementary site. Scott is working hard to identify the property for South Covington/Jenkins Creek Trail so that people have access to the Downtown Park. There is some optimism that the need for the bridge replacement can be sparked by the completion of the MultiCare Hospital. The CM recall that the cost of a bridge is forecasted at \$350,000 for a vehicle-safe bridge. The partnerships we've established have been successful. The allocation of resources to staff for recreation programs

have also been successful, highlighting the Summer Concert Series. We are creating new job descriptions for event staff so that Pat can hire instructors/staff for recreation programs like Kids Fest (formerly Walk n Roll).

3. **Capital and Operating Budget Priorities, 1 of 2** — In 2013, the CCP will already be built, and the priorities we discussed are land acquisition for the Downtown Park, maintenance/rehabilitation for Jenkins Creek Park, and hiring a park planner who can perform the planning on both so that we can determine what investment would be needed for a Parks bond measure. The CM discussed the current status of the Downtown Park design/concept. Scott stressed the need for a Park Planner if we want to achieve our park acquisition and development goals. The Commission was asked to give Scott guidance for recommendations to the Council. William suggested that the access to Jenkins Creek would be a high priority for youth in Covington. He also suggested that movies in the downtown or JCP would be other valuable recreation programming.
 4. **Arbor Day Report**— Steve reported that the event at Friendship Park went very well, and the organization of the event was great. The guests were very impressive, and everyone enjoyed themselves. Scott reported that there is a plan to water the trees, as there is no irrigation there. City Council Members Moon, Snoey, and Mayor Harto were in attendance. Kollin reported that the enthusiasm carried over to that night’s Council Meeting.
 5. **BPAC Report**—Kollin attended the last meeting of the BPAC. Much of the discussion focused on the aquatic center and lots of details about that.
 6. **Legislative Update**—our local legislators provided \$400,000 in funding for aquatic center renovations through the 2012 Jobs Now Act.
- Scott would like our volunteer hours by month, not just a total.

**GOOD OF
THE ORDER**

COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

There were no comments.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Conni Elliott

Secretary
Parks & Recreation Commission