

MINUTES  
BROOKINGS PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
April 24, 2008

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Benoit called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

*Present:* Commissioners Ken Barkema, Patricia Brown, Frances Hartmann, Tony Parrish, Don Vilelle, and Chair Michelle Benoit.

Others present: John Cowan, Public Works Director

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Correct the minutes to indicate under Information Updates/Discussion, item #B, Chair Parrish should be Commissioner Parrish. **Motion made by Commissioner Vilelle to approve the minutes of March 27, 2008 as corrected; motion seconded and Commission voted, the motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

- A. Chris Hart – Basketball Courts at Azalea Park. Mr. Hart did not appear, Commissioners reviewed letter and discussed the issues related to his request. Five outdoor courts are already available for use at the schools plus one court at Bud Cross Park, volleyball court location is not logistically feasible and according to the Azalea Park Master Plan Azalea Park is built out and unable to build anything further. **Motion made by Commissioner Brown to deny the request; motion seconded and Commission voted, the motion carried unanimously.**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

- A. Azalea Park Planning/Operations – Gary Milliman, City Manager requesting the Park & Recreation Commission to establish two subcommittees. One to work with city staff and the Azalea Park Foundation to develop a long-term plan for the maintenance of the heritage Azalea area and one to work with City Staff and the Capella developer to develop a transition plan for ownership of the building and a long-term maintenance/operation plan. Commissioners Parrish and Barkema appointed to the Capella committee; Chair Benoit and Commissioner Hartmann appointed to the Azalea Park Foundation committee.

**INFORMATION UPDATES/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. *Easy Manor Park Update* – Chair Benoit. Waiting to hear on the grant, have received three comments from natural resource agencies on the impact of the park to fish and wildlife, waiting for fourth response.
- B. *Stout Mountain Railway* – Commissioner Parrish. Have started laying down tracks, bridges are done, plantings are in the process. Grand opening scheduled for Azalea Festival weekend, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Commissioner Parrish advised that the tree removal at Stout Park was very destructive to some of the azalea plants. Park needs to be cleaned up once removal/planting of new trees is done. Requests that the Myrtlewood and Madrone tree stumps on Oak Street be ground out/removed by CCEC. Water faucet located, waiting on electrical outlet decision from City Manager.

Commission Vilelle attended an Azalea Park Foundation meeting, they continue to try and recruit new members and need more members to continue. Chair Benoit and Commissioner Hartmann will attend the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting as Park & Recreation representatives. The Azalea Park Foundation would like to pursue the issue with the city about a caretaker in Azalea Park.

Chair Benoit interested in the plantings that the Capella Committee will be putting in when landscaping is installed. To keep as natural as possible would be best for low maintenance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm. Next meeting scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michelle Benoit, Chair

(approved at May 22, 2008 meeting)