

**CITY OF CLEARWATER, SEDGWICK COUNTY, KANSAS
PARK ADVISORY/TREE BOARD MINUTES
DECEMBER 20, 2007**

The regular meeting of the City of Clearwater, Sedgwick County, Kansas, and Park Advisory Board was held on Thursday, December 20 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Clearwater City Hall at 129 E. Ross Avenue.

The following members were **present**: Bob Cumming, Swim Team and Clearwater Historical Society; Jami Buck, Member at Large; Casey Carlson, Clearwater Lions Club; The following members were absent: Jim Frickey, Clearwater Youth Football, Todd Widler, USD 264 Board, Kari McCloud, AYSO Soccer; Aaron Tjaden, Clearwater Ball Association, and Beki Zook, Recreation/Park Director

Also present were Kent Brown, City Administrator; Wanda Robertson, Deputy City Clerk and Park Advisory/Tree Board Secretary.

1. Approval of the Minutes of November 19, 2007

MOTION: Mr. Carlson made a motion to approve the Park Advisory/Tree Board Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Buck and passed unanimously.

2. City Park Plan

City Administrator Mr. Brown had provided copies of various plans and ideas to the Board in the Agenda package prior to the meeting for review and ideas in order to get an overall idea of the Board's long-term plan for the City Park. The Board reviewed the plans and there were several questions to be considered.

Mr. Cumming had visited the park to help in determining which side an entrance to the park should be on by the Historical Museum. A sidewalk between the pool and the Museum (South side) would not only provide an entrance to the park, but would solve another issue, that being rain will often drain from the existing sidewalk into the museum. Mr. Cumming also visited with the Historical Museum Board regarding the issue of rain. If this location is determined to be the best, the existing sidewalk would be removed and replaced with a sidewalk that could better drain the water away from the museum. Persons entering the park would be visible from the pool. This would keep minors from loitering. A picnic area by the pool was also suggested.

Next was location of the entrances. Mrs. Buck did not think an entrance to the park from the church was a good idea. Although all agreed an entrance from the Southwest corner would be beneficial, and adding some additional entrances that may include a “mushroom” type shelter.

All members agreed that existing shelter and gazebo “hid” the park and so made the park seem uninviting. Members talked of moving shelter, removing shelter all together and placing elsewhere and actually “splitting” shelter. This idea had many appealing features. First would be, the concrete is already in place, Park Board members talked of leaving the North/South shelter for events, removing some the mid sections of the East/West shelter but leave a portion of the west side of the shelter. Then bathrooms could be placed there with the doors facing the west and there would be cover. Mrs. Buck suggested placing picnic tables on the open part, this would give the area a breezeway effect, people would be able to enjoy either a sun or shaded area while being able to view children playing on the equipment. Also discussed was moving the equipment on the east side of shelter to the open area, again this would display more of the parks’ equipment.

Due to the history of the gazebo, Park Board members discussed placing the gazebo in a northern part of the park.

Adding another shelter or a stage was also considered. This was thought to be an advantage for the entertainment for larger events such as the Fall Festival. A stage or the equivalent of, could be placed in the area currently known as the ball field. Mr. Carlson also had a suggestion of making a “U” shape of shelters. Without the benefit of a ball association member’s knowledge, the Park Board spoke of removing the ball field and moving the location to the Sports Complex. Determination of where and what the ball field would entail will have to wait until a ball association member can explain to the Board what is needed. If a stage area is agreed on, suggestions of installing a “sound barrier” of trees along the back side of the park next to the residential area.

Mr. Cumming suggested installing the restored windmill between the pool and the north/south shelter. The beauty of windmill could be viewed from both the park and the road, this would hopefully deter vandalism.

Mr. Cumming and Mrs. Buck suggested adopting the plan drawn by three K-State University students, Joe Schneider, Tor Jansen and Jonathon Corbett. Now that the parking lot has been installed, the drawing seems to be more easily understood and has a flowing appeal. Mrs. Buck continued by saying she felt that landscaping be followed as closely as possible.

Mr. Brown indicated that he might possibly have a disk from the students, and if so, would include in the next month's packets a smaller copy of the original plan and a copy of the drawing that been completed by city staff so far based on the Park Board's recommendations. This would allow the board to redraw and make corrections while discussing different proposals. Mr. Brown will have these documents ready for the mailing packets for the next meeting.

Mr. Carlson suggested installing another basketball court for younger children. Mr. Brown thought there might be room near the horseshoe pit area. Mr. Cummings reminded the board that a drinking fountain should be placed somewhere near the playground area.

Last item to be discussed was the bioswale. At the last meeting there was concern that a bioswale would be a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Mr. Brown advised the board that a bioswale is not intended to have any standing water for longer than a 24 hour period. That being said, mosquitoes have a longer incubation time. A properly installed bioswale would be based on a soil test. This would allow for a natural drainage of water.

3. Other Matters and Reports

Final decisions were reached on the following items:

- A sidewalk entrance for the park would be placed between the pool and museum.
- If the board chooses to split the pavilion, bathrooms would be placed in the west side with the doors facing the west
- Multiple entries to the park are needed, including one by the southwest corner
- Adoption of the basic plan by Schneider, Jansen and Corbitt

4. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss Mrs. Buck made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Carlson.

CERTIFICATION

State of Kansas)
City of Clearwater)
Sedgwick County)

I, Wanda Robertson, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Clearwater, Sedgwick County, Kansas, serving as Park Advisory/Tree Board Secretary, do hereby certify that the foregoing copy are Minutes of the meeting the City of Clearwater Park Advisory Board held on December 20, 2007. I certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Minutes officially approved by the Clearwater Park Advisory/Tree Board held on January 21, 2008.

Given under my hand this _____ day of _____, 2007.

Wanda Robertson, Deputy City Clerk & Secretary for
Clearwater Park Advisory/Tree Board