

Texas Recreation & Park Society
Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting
Radisson/San Angelo Inn—San Angelo, TX
Saturday, March 29, 2008
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by newly installed President Doug Evans. President Evans asked Dr. Lord to call the roll:

Board Members Present: President Doug Evans, Past President Sally Gavlik, President Elect Robert Armistead; Pam Nelson, Randy Truesdell, Dr. Lynn Beaman, Monica Sue Walsh, Jennifer Robertson, Cheryl bright-West, Danny Castro, Jeff Lyssy, Janet Martin, Rick Weise, Scott Swigert, Susan Gerred, Jennifer Harnish, Tommy Harper, Elsa Muñoz, Vickie Birdow, Kevin Mitchell, Randy Waters for Jackie Vaughan-Williams. A quorum was present.

Guests and Staff: Jean Coleman, Chair of Professional Development Committee, Oscar Carmona and Brad Griggs, Co-Chairs of Legislative Committee, Leigh Morgan, Chair of Finance Committee, Past President Dona Roth Kinney, Shane Mize, Tex-tern (Ft. Worth PACS), Mauraleigh Boersma, Dottie Bossley, Galveston CVB and Jamie Weir, Director of Sales & Marketing-Moody Gardens, Galveston PARD: Barbara Sanderson (Director), Roger Johnson, Shelia Brown, Clinton DeVries, McAllen PARD: Larry Pressler (Director), Richard Kraus and several other staff members, and Ernie Arredondo, McAllen CVB.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 1, 2008

Kevin Mitchell moved to approve the minutes and Rick Weise seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

President Evans then installed Susan Gerred as the Athletic/Aquatic Branch representative to the Texas Recreation & Park Society's Board of Directors.

Andy Cedillo, 2008 Institute Planning Committee Chairperson gave a brief report on the institute and Rick Weise distributed a "gift from San Angelo" to the TRAPS Board of Directors present.

2011 INSTITUTE BID PRESENTATIONS

- ❖ **Galveston/ Moody Gardens...** Dottie Bossley, Convention Visitors Bureau provided an overview of functions and facilities including fishing opportunities, Schlitterbahn Waterpark etc. Jamie Weir, Director of Sales and Marketing for Moody Garden outline the Moody Gardens details:
 - All functions under one roof – sleeping rooms, meeting rooms and exhibit space ... Moody Gardens opened December 31, 1998
 - 1 comp room for every 50 room nights
 - \$135 per room
 - \$1500/day conference center rental
 - Complimentary shuttle service from airport
 - South parking lot for Maintenance Rodeo

- ❖ **City of McAllen ...** Larry Pressler, Director of Parks & Recreation along with Ernie Arredondo, Director of Sales for McAllen CVB presented the highlights of their bid:
 - McAllen is the gateway to USA/Mexico
 - New Convention Center with 16 breakout rooms
 - McAllen assisted with the 2007 SPI/Rio Grande Valley TRAPS Institute
 - Marriott Hotel will open prior to 2011 with 2400 rooms
 - Comped exhibit hall and meeting space ... fee waived; some AV equipment with convention center
 - Food & beverage service provided by "Center Plate"
 - Shuttle service from hotel(s) to airport and convention center
 - \$80-100/standard hotel room

The TRAPS Board of Directors voted re: secret ballot and selected McAllen as the host site for the 2011 TRAPS Institute.

OFFICER REPORTS

- Sally Gavlik, past president reported that while at the Institute the Education Committee met to address a series of schools and other professional development options in keeping with the proposed TRAPS Strategic Plan. Four schools are initially proposed that would be offered every two years and rotated around the state: *Leadership Development, Facility Design, Revenue and Maintenance*. The goal is to improve the educational opportunities for our

members and other professionals in the state, while being cost effective. Note: the Leadership Development was successfully offered in Alvin this past fall. Dona Roth Kinney presented ideas for the next school on Facility Design: would consist of site visits and round table discussions focusing on design and operational aspect of facilities, particularly aquatic, recreation centers and senior centers. Initial school would be offered in the DFW metroplex area in August 2009. Dona Roth Kinney was seeking approval/consensus to move ahead with the planning of the school; it was the consensus of the board to move forward.

- Robert Armistead, President-Elect thanked everyone for the honor of serving and stated he looked forward to the next several years.
- President Evans once again (as he had done at the Awards Dinner) acknowledged the honor he felt in serving the Society and promised to communicate with/to the membership throughout the year.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Lord noted that her Progress/Status Report was verbal rather than the usual written report. The following key items were highlighted:

- **Tex-terns (4) and Student Scholarships (5)** ... the 2008 TRAPS Institute included the initial TEX-tern program modeled after the NRPA fellows and AAPRA Externship programs. The initial class of TEX-terns included: Krystal Loyd (Kyle), Shane Mize (Fort Worth), Ron Neuman (North Richland Hills) and Evan Partee (New Braunfels). Five student scholarships to the TRAPS Institute were awarded to: Shelby Carradine (Texas State University), Eric Cegelski (University of North Texas and president-elect of the Student Branch), Josh Harper (Texas A&M and current president of Student Branch), Tomara Rock (UNT and Jack Ashworth Scholarship recipient); and Michelle Zahn (Texas State University). All recipients are to provide a written evaluation and/or reflection paper for not only feedback purposes but potential publication.
- **Endorsement of Special Olympics Texas Camp (Eunice Kennedy) Shriver program** ... The Eunice Kennedy Shriver Global Sports Camp program (Camp Shriver) is a place for children with intellectual disabilities and for those without disabilities to learn new sports skills; improve their individual sport performance, participate in individual and team sports, build friendships, and have fun with partners who have signed on and been trained as Camp Shriver volunteers and staff. Given that the Texas Recreation and Park Society (TRAPS) values inclusion, the development of the individual and collaboration; and has a Therapeutic Recreation Branch, which is committed to serving individuals with disabilities then it is appropriate and the right thing to do to support Camp Shriver program in Texas. The Camp Shriver program is one strategy for enhancing the physical, mental and social development of not only individuals with intellectual disabilities but the partners/volunteers engaged in the program as well. Randy Water moved that the Texas Recreation & Park Society endorse the Special Olympics Texas Camp Shriver Program. Seconded by Sally Gavlik. Motion was approved.
- **Demolition of 11010 First Street Property** was completed on Monday prior to the Institute (at a cost reflective of the lower end of the bids submitted).
- **Web site** had been redesigned by two TRAPS members: Mendy Marshall, Austin and Stacie Talbert, Corpus Christ. The new web site went live February 1st. Julee Rosales is working with Mendy Marshall to update the web on a regular basis and to address any concerns—"iron out wrinkles" as needed. The web site was unveiled prior to the Institute when the TRAPS website traditionally gets the most traffic; thus a truer test of its capabilities and "user-friendliness".
- **Texas Water & Recreation Summit "A Sustainable Future for Surface Water and Outdoor Recreation in Texas: Challenges, Conversations & Collaborations"**... reminded board members of the dates (April 10 & 11) in San Marcos at the Activity Center. Maximum (dream) number would be 150, but hope to have 50-75 in attendance.
- **Financial Report** ... Dr. Lord highlight the end-of-year financials for FY2007 (net \$71,249), including a separate accounting for the 2007 Institute (net revenue \$155,957, \$50k over budgeted), and year-to-date for FY2008 (currently at 42% of revenue and 16% of expenses). TRAPS is in a very sound fiscal position. The Executive Director in accordance with the approved revised investment policy has purchased stock (\$50k) and reinvested matured CD funds into other CDs, laddering them in terms of maturity dates (6, 12, 18 months).
- **Membership Report** ... the Executive Director deferred to Julee Rosales, Membership Services Manager for the report. As of March 1st TRAPS had 2,151 members and had gained 117 new members since January 2008 (refer to written report).

ACTION ITEMS

A. **Site Selection for 2011 Institute** ... action taken earlier in the meeting (see above).

B. **Approval of 2008-2009 Committee Chairs & Vice Chairs** ... President Evans presented the list of 2008-2009 Chairs and Vice Chairs that he and President-Elect Armistead have secured to date; there are still some vacant Vice Chair positions to be filled. A motion to approve/accept the 2008-2009 Chairs and Vice Chairs was made by Pam Nelson with a second by Kevin Mitchell. The motion passed.

C. **Revision to Student Membership** ... Jenn Robertson on behalf of Christian Moore highlighted the Action Form and the recommended revisions. Tommy Harper moved to accept the committee's recommendation to reduce the amount of time that the Student Branch President-Elect must be an enrolled student from 2/3 of their term to the first 18 months (Similar to NRPA's Student Branch); the second by Randy Truesdell with the motion passing. With respect to updating the TRAPS Manual of Procedures, Dr. Lynn Beaman moved that appropriate revisions be made in the MOP to reflect the approved changes, second by Monica Walsh; motion passed.

D. **Approval of 2008-2012 TRAPS Strategic Plan** ... Sally Gavlik reviewed the charge given to the Strategic Plan Task Force and Dr. Lord briefly outlined the process followed. She noted that the proposed 2008-2012 TRAPS Strategic Plan was more strategic, less tactical and that annual work plans would need to be developed. The proposed plan was more forward-thinking and only two-pages; however the task force could not come to consensus re: wording of Resource Development's overall goal (BHAG: big hairy audacious goal) and asked that the board decide from the three presented as part of the written document. The consensus of the board was for the second statement that read: *"TRAPS' resources influence greater understanding of the value of parks, open space, recreation and tourism, giving members and stakeholders the ability to use them for organizational, personal and/or community development."* Dr. Beaman moved to approve the second statement with the addition of "and/or" before community development. Elsa Muñoz seconded the motion. The motion passed. Subsequently, Tommy Harper then moved to accept the 2008-2012 TRAPS Strategic Plan as amended. Sally Gavlik was the second. The motion was approved.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. **Institute 2008 Planning Committee** ... Andy Cedillo & Rick Weise gave brief wrap-up comments, noting that they felt things went well in spite of the changes in venues. Rick noted that nearly \$75,000 had been pledged in sponsorships. Andy highlighted some of the preliminary registration numbers (provided by staff): 531 full-packets, 61 daily registrations, 84 new memberships, 53 students, approximately 80 vendors and 235 exhibitors. POPs Branch had the most members registered (138) followed by Athletics/Aquatics (109). Golf Tournament saw the largest turnout in years, perhaps ever nearly 90 players (including sponsors). San Antonio PARD won the participation award for the Fun Run & Walk for the second year in a row. Institute should meet and hopefully exceed its budget target.

B. **Institute 2009 Planning Committee** ... Dr. Lord distributed on behalf of Joanna Mesecke and Mendy Marshall of Austin Parks & Recreation Department, "save the date" postcards and a list of hotels for the 2009 TRAPS Institute. The proposed theme for the 2009 Institute is "Capitol Challenges for Capital Ideas ... towards a promising future." The Radisson Hotel on Lady Bird Lake will be the host hotel.

C. **Legislative Update** ... Oscar Carmona and Brad Griggs asked the board to refer to their written report, which serves as a summary of activity for 2007 and the 80th Texas Legislative Session. Also included in the board packet was an initial draft of the proposed TRAPS Platform for the 81st Texas Legislature (2009). The co-chairs reported that over the next couple of months they would solidify the platform and finalize plans for the up-coming legislative session.

D. **NRPA Update** ... Michal Anne Lord gave an update to NRPA.

- Ten Texans walked Capitol Hill mid March during the Mid-Year NRPA Legislative Forum
- SW Region held a meeting at the 2008 Institute.
- The 2008 NRPA Congress is in **Baltimore, October 14-18**

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS' REPORTS *(Written Reports Requested)*

A. **Texas Amateur Athletic Federation** ... given by Susan Gerred along with the Athletic/Aquatics Branch report ...

- Thanks to everyone for attending the TAAF/TPPC Social and that they will continue to support TRAPS
- TAAF/TRAPS Sports Management School (SMS University) will be in San Antonio, May 2-8 with Executive Board meeting on May 9th
- Summer Games will be July 24-27 in San Antonio... the Winter Games in Frisco were very successful with 13/15 sports being offered and ten thousand participants.
- Annual Hall of Fame Banquet was held in January in Abilene.
- The Institute Golf Tournament hosted by the TRAPS Athletic/Aquatics Branch and coordinated by Danny Boykin had 91 golfers with the title sponsor once again being Landscapes Unlimited and a total of \$3,500 in sponsorships and 1,100 in-kind.

B. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department** ... NO REPORT ... but it was announced that Carter Smith is the new Executive Director of TPWD and that his first meeting was with representatives (Gavlik, Evans, Armistead, Massey, Griggs, Carmona, Lord and Dabney) of TRAPS.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS (*Written Reports Requested*)

A. **Region 1** ... NO REPORT ... Larry Offerdahl unable to attend

B. **Region 2** ... Monica Sue Walsh distributed a written report for Region 2/3.

C. **Region 3** ... Jennifer Robertson dittoed Region 2.

D. **Region 4** ... Cheryl Bright West distributed a written report

E. **Region 5** ... Danny Castro deferred to Region 7 for a joint report.

F. **Region 6** ... Jeff Lyssy handed out a written report and announced that Corpus Christi would host the 2008 Regional Workshop.

G. **Region 7** ... Janet Martin reported that the Region 5/7 Workshop was held in New Braunfels and that the hosts did a great job and she wished to thank Stacy Laird, Director and staff for their fine efforts. The region was committed to strength relations within the regions, including those with universities; and would be recruiting more students.

H. **Region 8** ... Rick Weise noted that folks in the region had been focusing on preparing for the institute as had their cohorts in Region 1 and 9. That there had been a good turn out for the Joe Ely Concert hosted by the Tri – Regions. The Tri-Region Workshop would be held October 9-10 in Amarillo.

I. **Region 9** ... Scott Swigert stated that they had about 175 participants for the 2007 Tri-region workshop in Odessa this past November. He noted that the 2007 Workshop included a new maintenance track approved for/by Texas Department of Agriculture CEUs. There were 11-12 teams participating in the 2007 Tri-Region Maintenance Rodeo.

J. **At-Large Directors** ... Pam Nelson/Randy Truesdell reported that the annual "first-timers orientation" was once again held as a part of Institute. Twenty to twenty-five folks attended in addition to members of the TRAPS board. Pam & Randy expressed their thanks for those that attended.

K. **Academic At-Large Director** ... Lynn Beaman reported that she had contacted every university/college with parks and recreation or related curriculum program, identifying who TRAPS is and what the benefits of membership were; additionally offering to have TRAPS members come to the campus and make presentations/speak to classes, student clubs etc.

BRANCH REPORTS (*Written Reports Requested*)

A. **Athletics/Aquatics** ... Susan Gerred submitted a written report in addition to oral report under TAAF.

B. **Citizen Board** ... Jennifer Harnish provided a written report (State of the Citizen Branch) and highlighted the graduate students (Texas State University) project on marketing and growing the Citizen Branch/citizen participation in TRAPS. The marketing plan calls for five focal areas: Image, Visibility, Outreach, Partnership and Legacy. The branch would use project for determining future direction and scope of branch.

C. **Commercial** ... Tommy Harper stated he was pledging his support to TRAPS growth, which makes commercial members successful. His company would offer to the college/university a \$2,000 incentive for having the most students attending the Institute. He is committed to being a strong link between the organization and the individual vendor.

D. **Leisure/Aging** ... Elsa Munoz announced that branch awards were given out at the branch meeting. Elections would be held hopefully in May. The branch is hoping to have a Leisure & Aging pre-institute in 2009; and hoped to bring in a nationally recognized speaker for ½-1 day. Danny Castro would be the Leisure & Aging track coordinator. They are also considering using some of their funds for a regional representatives' conference call.

E. **Minorities in Leisure Services** ... Vickie Birdow reported that the branch would be starting the nomination process for new branch board members and would appoint an incoming president, due to the elected president-elect no longer being in the field. A written report was also submitted.

F. **Parks Operations & Planning** ... Kevin Mitchell stated in addition to the submitted written report that he could announce the results of the state rodeo and asked that they be posted on the web or in another publication. He recommended

that the Maintenance Rodeo be on a different day so as not to compete with golf, perhaps Thursday morning. Farmers Branch will host the Region 2/3 Maintenance/Equipment Rodeo.

G. **Students** ... Eric Cegelski had to get back to Denton for his job, but left a report that 43 of the 53 students (81%) signed up to volunteer for the 2008 Institute did in fact show/attended the institute. Kathy McMains of Texas State University was elected at the Student Branch meeting as the new President-Elect; also noted was that Tomara Rock, University of North Texas received the Jack Ashworth Scholarship.

H. **Therapeutic Recreation** ... Randy Waters reported for Jackie Vaughan-Williams that the annual TR Summit would be August 26-29th at Camp for All in Burton, TX, near Brenham.

ADJOURNMENT

Monica Walsh moved to adjourn and Kevin Mitchell seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Submitted by:

Michal Anne Lord, Ph.D., CPRP, TRS/TXC

Approved 5/6/08