

Columbia City Park Board Minutes December 5, 2013

The Columbia City Park Board met in a special meeting to discuss sledding at the Devol Field with the following members present:

Park Board President Mark Ellis

Park Board Vice President Terry Baker

Park Board Secretary Mauri Bordner

Park Board Member Keith Nickolson

Those Absent:

Park Board Member Dennis Warnick

Mark Ellis, Park Board President, opened the meeting introducing Marsha McNagny, City Attorney. Marsha explained the conversations, prior to the Park Board Meeting on November 27th, pertaining to the liability and safety of Devol Field sledding. Attorney McNagny presented possible solutions for continued sledding at this site.

Mark Ellis, President, opened the floor for discussion within the Park Board members and Attorney McNagny. The suggestions presented were opening a 50 foot space in the fence, placing bales of straw along sledding and against fence, and posting rules and regulations. Mayor Daniel asks how the hay bales had been secured in the previous years. Mark Green stated deer fencing was used and secured it over the top of the hay bales.

President Mark Ellis opened the floor for discussion with the public in attendance. Roger Lundblad thanked the Board for realizing the outcry for sledding. Roger agreed that sledding could be dangerous but it is part of the family experience for winter fun. Donald Barton addressed the need for a fence around the baseball field. Jerimiah Ballard states every day it snows you can see 300 to 400 people sledding at Devol. Jerimiah stated, "As parents and citizens of the community, we are going to have to step up to keep this alive and help police the safety on the hill".

Terry Baker made a motion to open up sledding at Devol, expand the fence opening to 50 feet, add bales of straw, and post signage and regulations at City Hall, which is second by Keith Nickolson. On the call of the vote, four voted aye, and Dennis Warnick voted nay per e-mail.

All business was discussed, the Board adjourned.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Andrea Pequignot, Administrative Assistant Parks Department.