

**PARKS, RECREATION, & BEACHES BOARD MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE  
CITY HALL, 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR CHAMBERS  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2009 – 7:00 P.M.**

**October 2008- September 2009**

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Mark Hartman, Chair	P	8	0
Sean Fee, Vice Chair	A	7	1
Curtiss Berry	P	7	1
Betty Shelley	A	5	2
John Verkey	P	5	3
Matthew Weiss	P	7	1
Robert Payne	A	6	2
Ed Angelbello	P	5	3
Larry Mabson	P	7	1
Donna Guthrie	A	1	7
Mark McCormick	A	6	2
Jeffrey Cannon	P	8	0
Kenny Nail	A	5	3
Marilyn Markus	P	6	1
Bruce Quailey	P	2	0

Currently there are 15 appointed members to the Board, which means 8 would constitute a quorum.

**Staff**

Stacey Daley, Administrative Assistant  
Terry Rynard, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation  
Earnest Jones, Park Ranger Supervisor  
Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

**Communications to City Commission**

- **Motion** made by Mr. Quailey, seconded by Mr. Mabson and amended by Mr. Angelbello, to recommend that the City Commission pass the line item regarding lightning predictors as requested by the Parks and Recreation Department for next year's budget. In a voice vote, the **motion** carried unanimously.

**Roll Call**

Chair Hartman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Roll was called and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Verkey joined the meeting at this time (7:04 p.m.).

The following corrections to the minutes of the May 27, 2009 meeting were noted:

- P. 4, paragraph 4: Mr. Qualey did not recall asking the question about a skateboard park;
- P. 7, paragraph 4: The \$150,000 for the Coral Ridge Little League should be credited to the School Board rather than to the Little League;
- P. 7, paragraph 5: "Coral Ridge Civic Association" should be changed to "Coral Ridge Homeowners' Association."
- P. 12, paragraph 6: change "did not believe it was the Board's charge..." to "...the Board's job."
- P. 2, final paragraph: "distributed copies of the proclamation to the Board" – Chair Hartman did not recall distributing copies to the members.

**Motion** made by Mr. Berry, seconded by Ms. Markus, to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2009 meeting as corrected. In a voice vote, the **motion** carried unanimously.

### **1. Department Report – Assistant Director Rynard**

Assistant Director Rynard informed the Board that the renaming of Melrose Park to Shirley Small Community Park will be on the Agenda of the July 7, 2009 City Commission meeting. There will also be a proclamation that July is Parks and Recreation Month, which Chair Hartman has agreed to accept.

During the Conference Agenda meeting on the same day, there will be discussion of a proposal submitted by the Fort Lauderdale Jaguars, requesting accommodations at Croissant Park. Assistant Director Rynard described this as an attempt to work with baseball and share facilities, so the Jaguars would practice at Croissant Park and play games at Floyd Hall.

She advised that the Department is "asking... for some direction," as there are expenses involved with this proposal, such as improvement of restroom facilities and a concession stand. In prior years, the team only used the facility for a month, and concessions were not an issue.

Assistant Director Rynard noted that baseball had "dropped the lawsuit," and the Jaguars had worked with baseball representatives to come up with this proposal, which would also allow more use of the fields for baseball in the fall. While the

proposal is a “win/win” for both sides, she indicated the timing is not ideal due to the expense. She noted the concession stand is open nightly during football practice for “four or five hours a night.” The ultimate question is whether the City opts to “do something temporary at Croissant” or make more permanent changes.

She announced that the Better Meetings Academy had made handbooks available for advisory body participants who had not been able to attend, and encouraged all members to review these. In addition, Assistant Director Rynard reminded the members that any notes taken at Board meetings may be retained, but when a member leaves the Board these become the property of the City and should be returned, per the Sunshine Law.

She stated that Ann Herman and Coontie Hatchee Parks and the Boundless Playground are near completion, and should be finished by the end of July. The respective dates for grand openings have not yet been confirmed; Assistant Director Rynard advised she would email these dates to Board members when they became available. Formal invitations should be received as well.

She recognized that this is the final meeting for Park Ranger Supervisor Earnest Jones, who is retiring the first week in August 2009. She stated that he has consistently done “a tremendous job” during his more than 27 years of service to the Department, which began in October 1981.

Supervisor Jones advised that he has enjoyed his job, even its challenges, and has always tried to do his best for the citizens.

Chair Hartman noted he had first met Supervisor Jones during their service together on the Florida Recreation and Park Association Board, 10 to 12 years ago. He thanked Supervisor Jones for his service as well, not just to the City but to other agencies, such as FRPA.

## **2. Park Rules – Assistant Director Rynard**

Chair Hartman advised that members had received these in their information packet for review.

Assistant Director Rynard noted most changes are clarifications of language, with no major alterations to content. There is an item regarding tents on the beach, which are less restrictive than in past years.

She asked if the Board members feel there are any items that should be addressed.

Mr. Mabson asked if there is an agenda to the Park Rules. Assistant Director Rynard asserted these are the rules as cited by Ordinance. The Ordinance and rules will go before the City Commission for approval.

Mr. Quailey pointed out a typo on p. 1, line 2, in which "prove" should be changed to "provide." Assistant Director Rynard agreed with this correction.

Chair Hartman commented that he had "a number of things" that should be noted. Regarding #7, Beach Regulations, he noted that swimming is listed as being "prohibited under the following conditions," and pointed out that he had believed swimming on the beach to be prohibited at night.

Assistant Director Rynard advised swimming is not prohibited by Ordinance, but the lifeguards are off duty at 5:00 p.m. She felt if conditions were hazardous, they would advise swimmers to leave the water.

Chair Hartman also noted #7.4, which refers to flying kites in designated, posted areas or as determined by City officials. He asked how a person might be made aware of these determinations.

Assistant Director Rynard explained that this Item had been "tweaked" during a previous review, and added that there may be designated times in which this activity is permitted; in addition, activities such as Frisbee or football should not "endanger anybody else," and if they do not, it is unlikely a City official would intervene.

Chair Hartman moved on to #8, asking if the title is correct. Assistant Director Rynard stated she would request confirmation on this.

Chair Hartman concluded that he took issue with #4.1, regarding pets; this states that individuals may not bring any pets into "any park or City facility." He felt this policy is unique to the City and not supported by the State of Florida or Broward County, both of which allow dogs into their parks if the animals remain on a 6 ft. leash. Fort Lauderdale is the exception to this rule, and Chair Hartman asserted that this policy is wrong, particularly as there are often calls for the Department or the City to designate specific parks, or areas of parks, as dog parks. While there are reasons not to make this designation, the Chair felt as long as dogs are allowed into parks on leashes, this action may be prevented. He felt turning parks into dog parks would have "a lot of ramifications" for the overall parks system, and suggested to the Board that allowing leashed dogs into parks could avoid taking this step.

He added that if there are sufficient reasons not to allow leashed dogs into every City park, the Department could take this into consideration; however, as long as

leashed dogs are allowed into State and County parks, he did not feel this rule was a good idea.

Ms. Markus agreed, and added that there could be posted areas that did not allow dogs; however, dogs could be allowed in other parts of City parks, and she felt "the world should be open to our pets."

Mr. Mabson asked to know the rationale for prohibiting dogs in the Park Rules, in order to ensure the Board is not overlooking an important reason for the regulation.

Assistant Director Rynard stated this is "a question that comes to the Department often," and there have been multiple discussions regarding dogs in parks. The concerns include incompatibility of dogs with "other activities" within parks; she added that not every pet owner is sufficiently responsible to clean up after or otherwise control his or her dog, which creates an issue.

She added that this question is considered every year as part of the Park Rules. There are many parks that are "small parcels," and only a few irresponsible owners who may fail to clean up after their pets would create a problem with which the Department lacks sufficient Staff to address. She felt this may be a case of a few owners creating a difficulty for the majority.

She asked if Supervisor Jones wished to add any remarks to this debate. He responded that currently the prohibition of dogs is a City Ordinance; over the years, the Department has attempted to make concessions to this in specific locations, such as Snyder Park and Canine Beach, among others. He affirmed that while the Department has tried to make adjustments to this policy, there would need to be a City-wide Ordinance change to allow dogs into City parks.

Assistant Director Rynard added it is acceptable for the Board and Staff to make recommendations to the City Commission that the Ordinance be changed, if they wish. When the Park Rules are presented to the City Commission, the Board will be notified.

Mr. Cannon agreed with the Department's rules on this issue, stating that his experience within the Parks system has unfortunately shown that not all individuals clean up after their children, let alone their pets.

Mr. Angelbello asked if there are safety and/or liability considerations for the Ordinance as well. Assistant Director Rynard confirmed this, noting that while a leash regulation would eliminate a great deal of this concern, it would not entirely address the issues of cleanliness or disease. She reiterated that while this concern does not apply to the actions of all dog owners, it takes "very few" to create a problem.

Mr. Mabson felt if the Board wishes to recommend that the rules allow “some type of outlet” for dogs, some research should be done on how existing dog parks manage the pros and cons of this issue. He suggested that some parks may address this issue “very well” and the City may be able to adopt some of their rules.

Assistant Director Rynard stated she felt the Chair is aware of “inherent problems” with consolidating the dog population in a few parks; for example, while Bark Park is a “nice place,” it is a challenge to keep grass growing and maintain the drainage system, among other considerations. She requested clarification of the Chair’s intent, asking if he meant allowing dogs in more places might “disperse than concentration.”

Chair Hartman agreed with this characterization, pointing out that Mr. Mabson’s comment also raised the issue of enforcement. Chair Hartman viewed the present policy as “basically unenforceable,” or randomly enforced. He noted that in his own neighborhood, individuals take their dogs to the park, and the “random” enforcement of the policy creates dissatisfaction.

Mr. Verkey stated while he agrees with the Chair’s opinion, he was also trying to “envision a softball game” or another organized sport in which all attendees brought their dogs, a possibility he also viewed as problematic. He requested clarification as to whether Chair Hartman meant dogs would be allowed to go all about a park, or if he meant they would be limited to certain areas.

Chair Hartman explained he meant dogs would need to be leashed; in addition, they would not be allowed on playing fields. Mr. Verkey noted, however, that even this might be problematic if several dogs were in the stands. Chair Hartman stated an owner must be responsible for his dog’s behavior, whether this means cleaning up after the dog or controlling it from aggressive action toward another dog or a person. He agreed it would probably not be a good idea to bring a dog into a large group for an extended period of time; however, he suggested conditions could be attached to the policy, as they are attached to the permitting of dogs on the beach. He felt the rule of “no dogs in the parks” is “not realistic.”

Mr. Verkey agreed that enforcement is presently an issue, but allowing dogs in parks might create an issue as well. Chair Hartman pointed out that this goes on in other cities. Mr. Verkey cited Mr. Mabson’s suggestion that this be studied to learn how other places deal with this permission.

Mr. Mabson clarified that he is not opposed to allowing dogs in parks, but believed there must be a reason the Ordinance does not do so, and felt the Board should consider this while investigating whether the rule may be modified.

Mr. Quailey pointed out that the Florida Marlins recently hosted a “dog night,” which had not seemed not to pose a problem. He asked if any other members might be aware of the logistics of the event and how it had been possible. Mr. Angelbello advised that a specific section of the venue, as well as a particular point of entry, had been reserved for dogs and their owners.

Chair Hartman noted that there are special events that occasionally allow dogs, such as one at C.B. Smith Park, a County park, which recently drained its lagoon at the end of the season; on its last day, it was advertised that dogs were allowed, for example.

Ms. Markus pointed out that #4.1 states “no irresponsible person shall bring [dogs],” and noted that every pet is a reflection of its owner. She felt it is not the City’s responsibility to prevent well-behaved pets and their owners out of a public park.

Mr. Weiss stated he “feel[s] strongly” that the present rule should be kept in place, and perhaps specific parks that lack a high amount of “foot traffic” might allow dogs in limited areas; however, parks with a good deal of activity, particularly for children, could continue to prohibit dogs. He asserted that most dog owners unfortunately do not pick up after their pets, and many communities do not want dogs in their parks. Regarding enforcement, he felt parks “do the best [they] can,” and opening up all parks to dogs would send an inappropriate message.

Chair Hartman asked if this meant Mr. Weiss felt “certain parks” could remain inaccessible to dogs, but the policy itself could be changed to open some parks to dogs. Mr. Weiss explained felt the current policy, which prohibits dogs, is “good” as currently written, and easy to manage. In addition, opening up sizable areas of parks could “create more chaos” as the Department lacks sufficient staff to monitor their activity. Should only “one or two” parks be monitored in this fashion, he did not see an issue.

Mr. Cannon stated he wished to point out for the record that he “[doesn’t] oppose dogs at all.” He agrees, however, that there could be allowance of dogs in parks “unless otherwise designated,” as not all neighborhood parks are homes to playing fields.

It was noted that perhaps there could be such a distinction made between neighborhood parks and more high-density parks. Assistant Director Rynard pointed out that some neighborhood parks’ very small size is a factor. In addition, she stated that the Director of Parks and Recreation has been “very firm” on this issue.

She suggested that perhaps some of the City's "native preserve areas," which are allowed to remain predominantly natural settings, could be designated as dog-friendly locations.

Ms. Markus agreed that the "no dogs" policy is possibly unenforceable, noting that Lauderdale By the Sea had posted several signs to this effect, without success.

Mr. Quailey recalled that at the May 2009 meeting, he had visited some of the parks on the Agenda and taken pictures; he felt some of the less "active" parks, such as Sailboat Bend and Shirley Small Community Park, were host to less foot traffic than those parks that hosted sports activities, and might more appropriately allow dogs.

Assistant Director Rynard identified Sailboat Bend as a preserve area, such as she had mentioned earlier.

**Motion** made by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Weiss, to "stick to the Agenda that's been given to us tonight."

Assistant Director Rynard requested clarification of the **motion**. Mr. Berry stated the **motion** is "that we pertain to this as it's... written and probably been on the books for years." He affirmed that his intent in making the **motion** is to leave #4.1 as stated.

Mr. Mabson felt if the **motion** carries, the Board is "doing a disservice to a significant population" of dog owners, and they should address issues such as this one even if they are challenging. He reminded the Board that they are meant to benefit the community and not act out of convenience, and hoped they would consider the possibility of modifying some of the Park Rules if such action is appropriate.

Chair Hartman asked if there was any further discussion of the **motion**. Mr. Angelbello stated he wished to be clear on the issue the Board is voting for or against; Chair Hartman replied that it is to "make no changes to the Park Rule on dogs and cats in the parks."

In a voice vote, the **motion** carried 5-4 (Mr. Mabson, Ms. Markus, Chair Hartman, Mr. Quailey dissenting).

**Motion** made by Chair Hartman, seconded by Ms. Markus, to ask that the Parks and Recreation Department research comparable cities' ordinances in this regard, and consider certain "passive parks" as possible options for permitting leashed dogs, for future reference as to when this issue is addressed again, "for example, next year."



Mr. Quailey asked if the research should be limited to cities only, or if they should include cities, counties, and municipalities. Chair Hartman requested that Mr. Quailey broaden the **motion** by offering an amendment to this effect.

**Amendment** made by Mr. Quailey to look at the various Ordinances of city, State, or municipalities to learn if their policies might work for Fort Lauderdale. The **amendment** was **seconded** by Mr. Mabson.

In a voice vote, the **motion** carried 7-2 (Mr. Weiss, Mr. Berry dissenting).

Chair Hartman clarified that while Assistant Director Rynard had affirmed a motion was not necessary in order for the Department to look into this matter, he wished to go on record to “bring it front and center to the Commission.” He proposed the target date should be before the announcement of next year’s Park Rules.

Mr. Berry asked if there is a planned cleanup of Snyder Park. Assistant Director Rynard stated this is scheduled for July 25, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. as part of a CVC project.

Mr. Quailey asked if the entire document presented to the members contains Park Rules. Assistant Director Rynard confirmed this; Mr. Quailey requested clarification that there are specific Beach Regulations, but no separate regulations specific only to the parks. Assistant Director Rynard explained that all the rules are specific to the parks, and beaches have additional “special rules.” Should there be a conflict between the two, beach rules hold precedence in those areas, as they are addressed by a separate Ordinance under Code.

Mr. Quailey asked if there is a rule prohibiting hitting golf balls in Holiday or Bayview Parks. Assistant Director Rynard believed there were regulations on this subject; Mr. Quailey asked if “bounce houses” and rock climbing walls are addressed as well. Chair Hartman advised these require permits, for which a separate set of rules must be signed.

Assistant Director Rynard stated there are “generic rules” in which park officials retain the authority to address “unauthorized activities” or any action that “interferes with an intended purpose.” She explained that if sports fields are not in use, there is possibly no issue with hitting golf balls; however, this could be an issue during practices or games. This is stated in #4.4 of the Park Rules.

Chair Hartman asked if there are other issues with Park Rules. Mr. Mabson asked if there are designated areas for skateboarding, which is mentioned in #5.5.

Assistant Director Rynard clarified there are designated areas for skating at Holiday Park, but none presently exist for skateboarding. She explained that although this has been considered, when “skate parks” are built and regulated with specific safety precautions and rules, “they aren’t used.” She cited other cities’ experience on this issue, and added that the “cost and liability” of maintaining skate parks and enforcing their rules outweighs their use.

She added there are cities that have developed “urban design” or “urban plaza[s],” which contain elements skateboarders like, and there has been discussion of this possibility; as it has not been proven that this use would be “worth the money” necessary in constructing these parks, however, that step has not been taken.

Mr. Qualey remembered the previous existence of skateboarding facilities in Mills Pond Park. Assistant Director Rynard confirmed that there had been “temporary ramps” at that location, but they had not been used over the long term. She noted that this has been the trend across the country, as “[skateboarding] culture” has not wished to be subject to regulations. She offered to make research on this topic available to any interested members.

Mr. Cannon asked if there is a park “where they have model airplanes.” Assistant Director Rynard was not aware if there were areas other than ball fields available.

### **3. Board Comments – Chair Hartman**

Chair Hartman advised that Starlight Musicals began on June 19, 2009; these are Friday night events from 7:00-10:00 p.m. in Holiday Park, and are family events free to the public, who may bring blankets and picnic baskets if they wish. A list is available online and on the schedule.

He encouraged the Board members to “get out in the parks,” attend events, and turn in event critiques to the Department.

Sunday Jazz Brunch is held on Riverwalk from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. the first Sunday of each month. This is also a free family event. Chair Hartman noted that alcohol is permitted at this event.

Commit to be Fit is held regularly, and is scheduled for Saturday, July 4, 2009, at 9:00 p.m. at A1A and Las Olas Boulevard.

There will also be the annual Fireworks on the Beach, Chair Hartman advised. He directed the members to [www.fortlauderdale.gov](http://www.fortlauderdale.gov) to learn more about the various City events planned for this holiday, and encouraged members to volunteer if possible.

The Florida Recreation and Park Association (FRPA) will hold its State conference in Orlando from August 24-29, 2009, and members are allowed to attend as citizen Board members. Chair Hartman noted that an entire branch of this organization is directed toward this constituency. Registration forms are available at [www.frpa.org](http://www.frpa.org), and the cost of the conference is \$200.

Chair Hartman informed the Board that there is no scheduled meeting in July. They will meet again in August 2009.

Chair Hartman distributed copies of various articles, including one on a national and statewide trend of park cutbacks; the decision not to include an aquarium at the Aquatics Complex; the City's "budget gap," which has ramifications for park staffing and programming; and the presence of the red crown parrot in the City.

He also offered copies of *NRPA*, *Aquatics International*, *Athletic Business*, *Parks & Recreation Business*, *FRPA Journal*, and other free periodicals the members may sign up for online if interested.

Mr. Berry did not feel the drainage system at Floyd Hall Stadium is working properly, as he had seen standing water some hours after the rain recently.

Ms. Markus thanked City Staff for developing a map of the City's neighborhoods.

It was confirmed that the next Board meeting date will be August 26, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. Assistant Director Rynard advised that Director Thornburg will be present at that meeting.

Mr. Quailey asked if lightning detectors have been discussed for City parks. Assistant Director Rynard clarified that while there are lightning detectors at several parks and aquatics complexes, lightning predictors are not in use. Funds to purchase lightning predictors for the City's 13 largest and busiest parks have been requested in next year's budget, although Assistant Director Rynard reminded the Board that it is a "tough budget year" and the City Commission has warned that only absolutely necessary items will be purchased. She added that it has been made clear that this is a safety issue. Lightning predictors would cost roughly \$10,000-12,000 per location.

Mr. Quailey felt the City "should not hesitate" with regard to children's safety. Chair Hartman assured the Board that the issue is not taken lightly, and recalled that recently lightning predictors have been an Agenda item and were discussed at length.

Mr. Quailey asserted that the cost involved is "a small price to pay," particularly when metal sports equipment is in use by children.

Chair Hartman advised that the City Commission has not yet approved the budget, and the inclusion of lightning predictors as a budget item does not guarantee their approval. He suggested that a motion from the Board could underscore the need for these items.

Assistant Director Rynard advised that the City Manager will present the budget at the July 21, 2009 City Commission meeting; subsequently, the City Commission does not meet in August, and there are two public hearings in September for individuals to comment on the budget. She pointed out that if the Board or its members are passionate about any particular issue, it “certainly doesn’t hurt” to make a motion and ensure the City Commission is aware of an issue’s importance.

She noted that the present City Commission has not yet heard the Board address this issue.

Chair Hartman felt the present is “not a bad time” to bring this issue to the City Commission’s attention, as there is a delay before the Board votes on the final minutes of tonight’s meeting.

**Motion** made by Mr. Quailey, seconded by Mr. Mabson, to recommend the City Commission purchase lightning predictors for all the City’s major active parks.

Mr. Angelbello asked if this is a recommendation that the City Commission pass “what has been requested by the Parks and Recreation Department.” Mr. Quailey asked if this could be added as an **amendment**. Chair Hartman noted that he would “definitely support” this addition, as lightning predictors are already included in the budget on which the City Commission is working.

Mr. Berry asked if Mr. Quailey’s **motion** refers to “authorized” sports in the park, such as leagues. Mr. Quailey clarified that his intent was to have lightning predictors present “all the time.” Assistant Director Rynard pointed out that these devices may be set so they are not audible at all hours, so they would not create a disturbance “all night long;” as long as the park is open, it could have an audible alarm, so even if no organized sports were in progress, the system would still function.

She described the hand-held lightning detectors in use today as detecting “lightning that’s already hit.” By comparison, lightning predictors alert to “what could possibly happen” because the air is charged in a particular way, which includes “strikes out of the blue.”

Chair Hartman added that the “very loud horn blast” of the lightning predictors can be heard by people all over the park, while the hand-held detectors are more dependent on the individuals holding them to take action.

Ms. Markus asked if it is true that Florida has more lightning strikes than any other state. Other members asserted that they have heard this statistic as well.

Mr. Mabson asked if the School Board anticipates using various park facilities, as perhaps some of their funds could contribute toward lightning predictors. Chair Hartman felt this is “a great idea.”

He reiterated that the **amended motion** is to support the line item regarding lightning predictors in the current budget. Mr. Mabson explained his idea is that if the City’s budget is insufficient to this need, the School Board might be able to provide an alternative means of funding, or perhaps a “joint venture.”

Assistant Director Rynard clarified once more that the cost of lightning predictors is \$10,000-12,000 “per location,” with 13 locations targeted.

In a voice vote, the **motion** carried unanimously. Chair Hartman requested that this item be placed in the “Communications to City Commission” section on the front page of the minutes.

Mr. Angelbello requested an update regarding the maintenance shed at Holiday Park. Assistant Director Rynard replied that there is “slow” movement on this issue. It is expected to be re-bid at the end of June; although she had not seen this advertised, she noted that she does not always see the advertisements. The plan is to have this issue before the City Commission when they return in September. She felt this item is “still alive,” and funds were designated for this purpose “three or four years ago.”

She added that the current City Commission had the Department “hold up” on all the capital improvement projects that had not been done in 2008 if they were not absolutely necessary. She pointed out that these funds had not yet been “scrutinized” for other uses. She felt the issue would be within budget if it is presented before the City Commission in September.

Chair Hartman thanked Supervisor Jones for his years of service to the City once again, and the Board recognized his contribution with a round of applause.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.