

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

November 2, 2004

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 2, 2004, at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services conference room. Board members present were Amber Cree, Gail Russey, Dave Merrill, Randal Crosswhite, and John Goode. Board members absent were Susan Arrington and Toney Gutierrez. Community Services staff present were Mike Hall, Director; Tony Neitzler, Assistant Director; Carl Scott, Senior Citizens/Recreation Administrator, Susan Gerred, Recreation Supervisor; Bob Cheatham, Parks Superintendent; Jeff Bullock, Zoo Superintendent; and Sondra Cox, Executive Secretary.

Chair, Amber Cree called the meeting to order.

Invocation was given by Gail Russey.

Gail Russey moved that the minutes of the September 14, 2004, meeting be approved. Randal Crosswhite seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Request to Charge Admission: Carl Scott reported that the Abilene Youth Basketball Association is making their annual request to charge a \$5 admission to their pre- and post-season tournaments. The revenues will be used to pay the officials. Randal Crosswhite made a motion that the Board approve the request to charge. Dave Merrill seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Participation Report: Carl Scott presented the Summer Participation Report for Recreation and Senior Citizens. Mr. Scott reported that Recreation classes were up slightly and special events were down slightly. A new category has been added to reflect the class user hours. Participation in the After-school Program, field trips, and Summer Playground Program are all down slightly. Participation is up at the Tennis Center. Athletics are all down slightly. The Senior Citizens reported that arts and craft classes were down some, due to the instructor not teaching the class for the summer. Most of the senior activity participation has remained constant, with the number of meals served continuing to show an increase each month.

Participation Report: Dave Hand reported on the participation at the golf course. Participation is picking up after the greens renovation. Due to the number of rainy days, participation is down, however, the greens are in good shape. Maxwell has new golf carts with a GPS system. The irrigation system has been renovated and \$20,000 was spent on the pump station. Information on the golf course is available at www.golfmaxwell.com.

Consider Standards of Care: Carl Scott informed the Board of the requirement that the Parks and Recreation Board and City Council review and approve the Youth Program's Standards of Care. Wendy Parker, a certified recreation professional from the City of Arlington inspected our recreation centers on October 28. She recommended that the roofs be repaired, that a filing system be used that was consistent at all the Centers, that first-aid kits be marked and visible, and that the Center hours

be posted for the public. Gail Russey moved that the Board approve the standards of care as submitted and recommend approval to the City Council. John Goode seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Operational Report: (Recreation/Senior Citizens) Carl Scott reported that the Senior Citizens Division took 22 seniors to the State Fair in Fort Worth, the Division participated in a wellness fair in connection with Sears Methodist Retirement System. Early voting was held at all the Centers for the seniors. A program will be presented to the seniors on Identity Theft. The annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on November 19, 2004, at all of the Centers. The Recreation Division participated in the annual Boo at the Zoo, the sectional Punt, Pass, and Kick competition was held on October 30, Rose Recreation held its annual Monster Mash Bash on October 29 in which 100 attended the event, Adaptive Recreation had a Halloween Dance with 85 in attendance. Daniels Recreation Center had a Harvest Festival and had 550 attend. Cobb Recreation Center held a camp-out at the Center and had 25 attend. Sears Recreation Center will host its annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 11, 2004.

Operational Report: (Parks) Bob Cheatham reported that new exercise equipment for Redbud Park walking trail was purchased with funds received from the Dodge Jones Foundation. An Eagle Scout will be doing the work of replacing the equipment. Fort Imagination is receiving heavy use. There is still some detail work to be completed.

Operational Report: (Zoo) Jeff Bullock reported that the Zoo had just over 114,000 in attendance for the fiscal year 2003-04. Bob Patterson is the new president for the Zoological Society. There were 3,816 that attended the Boo at the Zoo. A Christmas event is being planned in conjunction with the Fire Department. Children will have free admittance in to the zoo with the donation of a new stuffed animal. The stuffed animals will be placed on a Christmas tree and after Christmas the stuffed animals will be donated to the Abilene Fire Department. The Zoo is currently holding 61 venomous snakes, 19 of them are for Animal Services and the other 42 are for the Texas Department of Wildlife. Modifications will be made to the Elephant Barn in order to secure the facility from the winter.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.