

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

4-3-2007

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 3, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services conference room. Board members present were Amber Cree, Gail Russey, Mike Schweikhard, Toney Gutierrez, Susan Arrington and Leroy King. Board member absent was Moses Hall. Community Services staff present were Mike Hall, Director; Tony Neitzler, Assistant Director, Carl Scott, Senior Citizens/Recreation Administrator; Bob Cheatham, Parks Administrator, Jeff Bullock, Zoo Superintendent, Theresa James Legal, and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary.

Amber Cree called the meeting to order – 8:30 a.m...

Invocation was given by Mike Schweikhard.

Toney Gutierrez moved that the minutes of the February 6, 2007, meeting be approved. Gail Russey seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Presentation of Spring Leisure Guide: (Recreation) Carl Scott stated that due to the later date of the board meeting some activity dates have already passed. Pictures of several events were featured in the guide. Cobb has had several dances that have seemed to be a success and growing steadily giving citizens a place to ballroom dance. The Daddy Daughter Date Night was a success again this year. New classes will be the Digital Camera Class, and the new Financial Classes offered at no cost. The Senior event “Live Long and Love It” was held, Pioneer Drive Baptist Church helped sponsor the event. Season of caring for caregivers was held at the center. May 22nd will be the Annual Senior Jamboree, notifications will be mailed. The Steam n Wheel race is during this session, along with the Mother/ Son movie night. The summer program will be gearing up with hiring of summer staff. The ACU Track will be helping with the track team this year.

Participation Report: (Recreation) Carl Scott stated the numbers about the same, a few cold weather days have caused some numbers to be down. The instructor user hours are up with the additional Basketball program at G.V. Daniels. The after school program continues to be a success. The tennis numbers are down a few weekends due to the bad weather. The athletic programs are running about the same, with group meetings down a little.

Participation Report: (Senior Citizens) Carl Scott stated that numbers are down a little with the weather being a factor. We are anticipating the opening of the new apartments across from the center to help boost numbers for Rose Park Senior Center.

Participation Report: (Golf) Mike Hall stated that due to the weather that numbers are down. March has been a good month. The greens have made a good transition, with the

warming temperature; Mr. Elrod stated that about 85% of grass has returned with the decision of painting the greens instead of reseeding. The sprinkler system is an automatic system that has to be run manual and is very maintenance intensive.

Parks Master Plan Update: Mr. Neitzler stated that most of the meetings were scheduled and has been a great opportunity to talk to the consultant to give ideas and goals with the Parks Master Plan. The consultant had meetings with Council members, staff and other organizations. He will be meeting with the schools, and one important portion of the plan is a survey with the schools. Later in few months there will be a survey of city residents, there will also be a public meeting scheduled. The full plan should be finished by this time next year.

Update on Bond Project: Mr. Cheatham stated that most of the project is complete all of the lights are ready and ready for ball season. The clean up is in process, the rain has delayed this portion. The repairing of concrete was not covered in the project; we are trying to add this to another paving project. There have been a few small problems that we are still working on to resolve. The current rain has caused the crews to be behind on mowing with the summer staff being short. The Sears concession stand was completed last week and ready for the ball season.

Operation Report: (Recreation) Carl Scott stated that the Daddy/Daughter was a success this year again with about 240 girls last year and this year we had 299 girls registered. The Mother/Son had a registration of 80 boys. The Bike Race had 258 riders this year, this has been the most that has ever registered.

Operation Report: (Senior Citizens) Carl Scott stated that the seniors took a trip to Granbury with shopping and to see a show, this Friday will be the Easter Party and Easter Hat Contest. AARP is finishing up the tax program. The contract was awarded for the expansion of the exercise room with strength equipment. This product should be finished in about two months. Mrs. Cree asked if there is room for expansion of the computer room. Mr. Scott stated that there would have to be remodeling done to accommodate the expansion. Susan Arrington asked if there was someone on staff that would be helping with the strength training. Mr. Scott stated that they were looking at current staff to help with that project.

Operation Report: (Zoo) Jeff Bullock stated that over spring break there as attendance of over 13,000 in attendance. The admission price was increased from \$3.00 to \$4.00 and seniors price was from \$2.00 to \$3.00 children's prices would remain the same. The contractors are on off schedule a couple of weeks with the problems with the roof. The dedication service is scheduled for July 2nd which is the Zoo's anniversary date. The creepy crawler center is underway with the construction of the exhibits. The Wetlands Board Walk project is still under planning process and waiting on the approval from the engineering department. The architects were in last week with the Design Charette that was planned in February for Elm Creek Backyard. The estimated time line for the project has a possible opening date of late spring/early summer 2008. The Education Department held a spring break camp that was a success. The YW Care applied for a

grant that was approved for the funding of the Education personnel the give classes at the YW Care program. Joy has applied for a grant with the Community Foundation for educational equipment. Union Pacific notified the Zoo that we did receive a \$5,000 grant for technology equipment for the education program. The Zoo sign is on the cover of the Kids and Family Directory and will be on next years Area Wide Phonebook. April 21st will be Earth Day and the AZA will be sponsoring the event and will be giving out prizes. The recycling center will be helping with this event. The salute to Dyess will be on May 19th for our appreciation to military personnel. May 31st will be the beginning of the Sunset safari and the stars and strips concert series on Thursday nights through August 31st. Guests from Pecos Zoo will be visiting and getting suggestions on animal management. One of the Black Bears that we received recently passed, results from the autopsy shows that she died from cancer and was very ill when she arrived. The pair of Lions was recommended for breeding.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 a.m.