

## PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

December 9, 2008

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services conference room. Board members present were Amber Cree, Gail Russey, James Smith, Toney Gutierrez, Julie Napier and LeRoy King. Absent was Terry Johnson. Community Services staff present were Mike Hall, Director; Tony Neitzler, Asst. Director; Carl Scott, Senior Citizen/Recreation Administrator; Bob Cheatham, Parks Superintendent; Kelly Messer, Legal Department; and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary. Special guests were Dan Santee, David Vela, Donnie Hart, and Diane Longenecker.

Chair, Amber Cree called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m..

Invocation was given by Gail Russey.

LeRoy King moved that the minutes of the, September 9, 2008, meeting be approved. Gail Russey seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Presentation of Service Awards:** Carl Scott presented a 15-year service award to Donnie Hart as the Center Coordinator in our Recreation Division. Bill Baker presented Diane Longenecker a 5-year service award; she is the Curator at the Zoo.

**Resolution to Relinquish Jurisdiction and Control over Municipal Golf Course:** David Vela stated that Charles Coody with DiamondBack Golf Course had approached the City with an offer to purchase the Golf Course. The Council had a meeting last week to evaluate the proposal and discuss purchasing DiamondBack or investing money into repairs at Maxwell Golf. Council is proposing to appoint a Citizens Advisory Committee to study and make recommendation on purchasing Diamondback or invest in Maxwell and to appoint a board to oversee the Golf Course. In order to do this the Parks Board would need to relinquish it's authority over the Golf Course. The Board members requested more time to gather information before making a decision. LeRoy King made a motion to table the item. Gail Russey seconded the motion.

AYES: Amber Cree, LeRoy King, James Smith, Julie Napier and Gail Russey

NAYS: Toney Gutierrez

As voted, the item will be tabled.

**Participation Report:** (Recreation) Carl Scott stated that Recreation classes are running at about the same levels. Instructor users hours are up with the Abilene Youth Basketball starting a summer league. The Late Night Basketball Program continues to be a success this year. The After School Program continues to hold steady, even with the drop in enrollment in the school district. The Tennis Center participation continues to grow. There are several tournaments scheduled with the school district. Softball numbers are beginning to grow, too.

**Participation Report:** (Senior Citizens) Carl Scott stated that the exercise room is still a popular asset and continues to attract new members.

**Consider Standards of Care:** Carl Scott informed the Board of the requirement that annually the Parks and Recreation Board and City Council review and approve the Youth Program's Standards of Care. We ask each year for an independent professional to inspect our facilities to make recommendations. This year we had Kristine Ondrias, Director of General Services with the City of Kerrville. Ms. Ondrias sent a letter with her recommendations. The first reading was Thursday, December 4, 2008 at the City Council Meeting. Second and final reading will be Thursday, December 18, 2008. Gail moved that we adopt the Standards of Care as presented. LeRoy seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion passed.

**Update on Grant submittal:** Tony Neitzler informed the Board that on the last bond election that citizens approved money to be used for Park improvements at Lake Fort Phantom Hill. Since the Parks and Recreation Master Plan was completed, we have applied for a grant from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for recreation improvements. The plan is for Johnson Park and the boat ramp area; there are plans for improvements at Seabee Park. We have had a site visit with the State and submitted additional information. We should have an answer in January. We are still in the running for the recreational grant at this time. Mike Hall reported that the State called to make sure that we were committed to investing our portion of the improvements if the grant were approved.

**Presentation of Winter Leisure Guide:** Carl Scott reviewed the Winter Leisure Guide, stating that upcoming events consist of the Steam - N - Wheels Bike Race and the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Daddy/Daughter Date Night. We had the Monster Mash that was held at Rose Recreation. We still have several medical terminology class available. Toddler Tuesday continues to be a success. Dog obedience classes usually increase after Christmas, with citizens getting new puppies. Senior Citizens will be sponsoring a Valentines Dance with Muddy Creek playing for the event.

**Operation Report:** (Recreation) Carl Scott stated that the After School Programs are having Christmas Parties before school is out. Abilene Youth Basketball will be starting in January, they are sponsoring pre-season games this month. The concession profits are used to sponsor scholarships for the summer program and special events for the Recreation Centers. The Punt Pass and Kick competition had 14 participants that qualified for State competition. At the Sears Thanksgiving dinner in November we fed over 400 people in that community.

**Operation Report:** (Parks) Bob Cheatham stated that the crews are in the progress of replacing the playground at Scarborough Park. The fence at Redbud Park is being moved out to meet the current regulation and at Lake Kirby the fence is being moved up to accommodate the girls softball field. Forty trees will be purchased with monies from the Releaf fund. They will be planted at Scarborough Park, and the Boy Scouts will be helping with the planting. A minor league field is being built at Sears Park.

**Operation Report:** (Zoo) Bill Baker stated that they have completed the Maned Wolf exhibit and Burrowing Owl exhibit renovation. Current focus is on emergency repairs on the Spider Monkey night house, and the Jaquar exhibit. Roofing repairs have been completed on the Rhino night house and the commissary building. Shooting will begin on the eighth installment of the Zoo program that is aired weekly on Channel Seven. Attendance continues to rise and the gift shop also continues to do well. Boo at the Zoo was a success again this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.