

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

January 5, 2010

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board room. Board members present were Amber Cree, Gail Russey, James Smith, Julie Napier, Toney Gutierrez, Terry Johnson and Leroy King. Community Services staff present were Mike Hall, Director; Tony Neitzler, Assistant Director; Bob Cheatham, Parks Superintendent; Lesli Andrews, Recreation/Senior Citizens Administrator; Kelly Messer, Legal Department; Bill Baker, Zoo Administrator; Bob Cheatham, Parks Superintendent, Susan Gerred and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary.

Chair, Amber Cree called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m..

Invocation was given by James Smith

Julie Napier moved that the minutes of the November 3, 2009, meeting be approved. Gail Russey seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Participation Report: Lesli Andrews reported that most of the numbers are running about the same, with no major changes. Youth football league numbers should increase with the new All Texas Youth Football League starting up this season with 32 teams.

Presentation of Winter Leisure Guide: Lesli Andrews stated that there are two new classes offered in the leisure guide, Eat Well to Live Well and What is Baton Twirling. The Steam n Wheel Bike Race has been set for March 20th and the Daddy Daughter Dance is scheduled for February 11th at the Civic Center.

Update on Fort Phantom Project: Tony stated that there were a few delays in putting the bid out due to some issues with underground utilities and rock in Johnson Park. Plan specs are about 90% complete. Bid specs should be complete by early February.

Update on Elm Creek Backyard: Bill stated that the project is still in progress, there have been a few delays due to weather conditions. Work is primarily continuing on the exterior exhibits which include the cougar, raccoon, porcupine, raptors, and coyote. Final work is being done on the interior of the building. The new artificial rocks are being installed in Pod C. Amber asked what time frame is the project off of schedule. Bill stated that it is about 4 weeks off schedule.

Operation Report: (Recreation) South Park hosted the Christmas Dinner with 350 in attendance. Dyess co-sponsored this event. Adaptive Recreation received a grant from the United Way for \$27,000, which is a \$2,000 increase from last year. Bids for the Tennis Center renovation will be opened on January 19th, construction to remove asbestos is scheduled to begin on the 20th. The project is expected to take four to five weeks. Lesli stated that a strategic planning meeting was held with the Senior and Recreation staff, a lot of good ideas were given and each person picked an area of interest to work on and will be researching and documenting the information to review in the next few months.

Operation Report: (Senior Citizens) Lesli Andrews stated Rose Senior Center had a fund raiser in December and sold out of tickets for the dance. The New Years Eve event included a Coke float party and later a New Years Eve dance. GV Daniels sponsored a bus to the Abilene High School football playoff game in San Antonio.

Operation Report: (Parks) Bob Cheatham stated that they are currently working on tree trimming and fence repairs. Plans are being made to plant some trees at Will Hair Park and Sears Park. Mike stated that the three large trees in front of City Hall will need to be removed due to disease.

Operation Report: (Zoo) Bill Baker stated that all of the replacements have been done on the night house doors throughout the facility. This was one of the complaint issues with the AZA standards in the giraffe, zebra, alligator, and waterfowl barn. The Zebra and Texas barn renovations have been completed. Roofing repairs in the amphibian, bird holding building have been contracted with Barr Roofing. Vet Clinic is still in progress and is ahead of schedule. Concrete pavers have completed the work on seven service roads. Commissary renovations on the masonry have been repaired or updated, electrical is 75% complete. The AZA inspectors will be here on January 19th and 20th

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.