

## PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

July 13, 2010

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 13, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board room. Board members present were Amber Cree, Gail Russey, Julie Napier, Toney Gutierrez, and Leroy King. Absent were Terry Johnson and James Smith. 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; and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary. Special guest was Lydia Long.

Chair, Amber Cree called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m..

Invocation was given by Toney Gutierrez.

Toney Gutierrez moved that the minutes of the July 13, 2010, meeting be approved. Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Presentation of Service Awards:** Bob Cheatham presented Refugio Patino an award for 10 years of service with the Parks Department.

**Request for permit to sell beer and wine at fund raiser event:** Tony Neitzler asked the board to review the conditions required to obtain a permit to sell beer and wine. Randy Piersell stated that they will be using vendors that currently have permits to sell beer and wine at the Civic Center. Randy stated that these are the specific details of the request:

1. Letter sent in May to the board to request permit (copy attached)
2. MCM Elegante will be selling the beer and wine
3. A security company has been hired
4. Event scheduled for September 2, 2010 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
5. Pereni Ranch will be the food vendor
6. The event will be the Sneak Preview for the Elm Creek Backyard.
7. Bands will be playing for event
8. Invitation only
9. Certificate of insurance (will be sent before event)

Gail Russey made a motion to grant permit contingent on supplying certificate of insurance. Julie Napier seconded, with all in favor the motion passed.

**Consider Dog Park Guidelines:** Tony Neitzler presented guidelines for review. There were several recommendations by different organizations that were used in the guidelines.

### Dog Park Guidelines

1. The dog park is open dawn to dusk.
2. Dogs must be licensed and have current rabies vaccinations on their tags or the owner must have a current rabies vaccination certificate in their possession while using the park.
3. Dogs belonging to City of Abilene residents must display city license tags.
4. Dogs must remain on leash while entering and exiting the park gates. Both the small dog and large dog areas are double gated and the exterior gate must be closed before opening the

interior gate. Dogs should be unleashed while they are between the inner and outer gates before they are allowed to enter the park.

5. Owners must remain inside the enclosures at all times while their dog is in the park
6. Any dog exhibiting aggressive behavior must be removed immediately.
7. Owners are responsible for damage or injury inflicted by their dogs.
8. Owners must have a visible leash with them at all times.
9. Owners are responsible for removal and proper disposal of feces of their pets.
10. All children must be under strict supervision and children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
11. There is a limit of two dogs per person per visit.
12. Puppies under 4 months are not allowed.
13. Dogs in heat are not allowed.
14. The small dog area is for dogs less than forty (40) pounds only.
15. Food is not allowed in the park area.. Dog treats are not allowed in the park area.
16. Spiked collars are not allowed in the park.

The guidelines will be posted at the park.

Julie Napier made a motion to accept guidelines as presented. Gail Russey seconded, with all in favor the motion passed.

Lydia Long stated that they have several fund raisers planned, one set up with Dyess We Care.

**2011 Budge Update:** Mike Hall gave a copy of the news release to Board members with information on the proposed budget. There are no recommendations for reduction of services, no furloughs and no additional fee increases were added. A .54 cent per \$100 tax increase has been proposed. The City Council will be reviewing the proposal the next few weeks.

**Request fee increase for Summer Playground and Adaptive Recreation Program:** Lesli Andrews presented the proposed fee increases to board members:

1. Summer Program fee increase from \$80 to \$90 for session I and II
2. Adaptive Recreation fee increase from \$30 to \$40 per month.

Toney Gutierrez made a motion to accept the price increases as presented. Leroy King seconded the motion, with all in favor the motion passed.

**Request charging a fee for the After School Program:** Lesli Andrews stated that the proposed fees would be \$20 for the first child, \$15 for the second, and \$10 for the third plus additional children. There will be scholarships available for the families that meet the state guidelines for financial help. Lesli stated that one of the issues was transportation and that in addition to the current stops that the AISD buses make that they have agreed to make additional stops. The proposed fee will not take effect until the next school year.

Julie Napier made a motion to recommend the new charges as presented. Gail Russey seconded the motion, with all in favor the motion passed.

**Johnson Park and Sea Bee Park Development update:** Tony Neitzler stated that the projects were let for bid and we feel that they were very competitive. The contract was awarded to Bulldog Construction and a pre-construction conference is scheduled later with Bulldog Construction. Construction will

commence prior to August 1.

**Operation Report: (Recreation/Senior Citizens)** Lesli Andrews reported that the Senior Jamboree was very successful with over 500 people attending. The event was held at the Rose Park Senior building. This week is National Therapeutic Week and Lesli Andrews presented a proclamation from the Mayor. Testimonies were given by two individuals that have been clients at the Center since it opened. The Push America Team will be here presenting a \$750 donation to the Adaptive Recreation Center for additional exercise equipment.

**Operation Report: (Parks)** Bob Cheatham stated that they are busy with mowing due to the recent rains. The irrigation system is being installed at the Zoo and they are seeding grass for the new area. Rocks are being cleared from the Dog Park area so that the irrigation system can be installed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.