

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

February 15, 2011

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 15, at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Julie Napier, James Smith, Toney Gutierrez and Leroy King. Absent were Terry Johnson and Amber Cree. Community Services staff present were Mike Hall, Director, Tony Neitzler, Assistant Director, Lesli Andrews Recreation/Senior Citizens Administrator, Bob Cheatham, Parks Superintendent, Bill Gersonde, Zoo Administrator, Kelly Messer, Legal Department; and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary.

Chair, Gail Russey called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m..

Invocation was given by Leroy King

James Smith moved that the minutes of the November 9, 2010, meeting be approved. Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Presentation of Service Award: Mike Hall presented Linda Hansen a 5 year service award. Linda works in the Community Services Administrative office as the Executive Secretary. Bob Cheatham presented Tom Jones a 20 year service award. Tom is a supervisor for the Parks Department.

Participation Report: Lesli Andrews stated that there are a few categories that have been changed in the way they are being tracked on the Senior Citizens and Recreation reports by tracking the number of users, not the number of hours. Most numbers are running about the same. Sears numbers are up due to voting at the center. The tennis center had several additional tournaments. Racquetball is no longer counted as a reservation.

Presentation of Winter Leisure Guide: Lesli Andrews stated that the new Christmas camp had 25 children enrolled at Rose. The Spring Break camp will be at South Park. The Steaming Wheels race will be in March and will be dedicated in memory of Susan Gerred. The 3 on 3 Basketball tournaments will be held on April 2 in the Buffalo Wild Wings parking lot.

Update on Fort Phantom Project: Tony Neitzler stated that significant improvement has been made, the pavement has been completed and the playground is almost complete. The wave attenuation device has been installed and appears to be working. The weight is 157,000 lbs and is set to meet the needs of several lake levels. The Sea Bee Park pavilion is currently being installed.

Consider operation agreement with the YMCA for the operation of Rose and Stevenson Pool: Mike Hall stated that the agreement has not been finalized. The YMCA contacted us on running the swimming pools. The YMCA sees it as an additional service to their members and a benefit to the City as well by saving in cost to operate the pools. Last year's cost to operate the pools was \$50,000. The current agreement would benefit the City in operational costs by \$20 - \$30 thousand dollars per year. The YMCA runs all year and we see this as an advantage with the difficulty we experienced keeping the pools staffed during the summer. The agreement would be for two years. Staff recommends that the agreement be approved after final contract has been approved. Part of the agreement would be that the recreation summer programs would still be allowed to use the facilities and that the price would remain the same this year. Julie Napier made a motion to approve agreement when finalized. Leroy King seconded the motion, with all in favor the motion carried.

Operational Report (Recreation/Senior Citizens): Lesli stated that we had over 400 attend the Daddy Daughter Date Night. Sears had a good turn out for the thanksgiving dinner. The Youth Advisory Council summit will be held in late February. We have a group from the Abilene Youth Advisory Council and the Carver Youth Council attending the summit. The Carver Talent Show benefiting the Carver Youth Council will be held February 19, at the Civic Center. Rose Tennis Center had a junior tennis tournament with over 245 youth signed up.

The senior's valentine party had over 120 participants. The Senior Jamboree is fast approaching and will be held at Rose Senior Center.

Operational Report (Parks): Bob stated that the baseball and leagues are starting, so crews are busy preparing fields for their use. Park crews have been busy repairing many leaks due to the freezing temperature. Repairs on the water fountains at the Dog Park are being done because they have been sticking open due to a vacuum line that is part of the freeze proof system. Crews have been pruning trees on N. and S. 1st streets and along Sayles Blvd. A bid for the playground equipment for Cal Young Park has been sent out. Lighting at Redbud Little League fields are being installed.

Operational Report (Zoo): Bill Gersonde stated that all of the animals did great during the winter months. Prairie Dog exhibit should be completed soon. The Dyess WE Care team helped work on the Flamingo Barn and the holding facility for isolation. The staff Veterinarian has been hired and will be working 4 days per week. The January and February Two Buck Tuesday was very successful. The membership campaign goal is 2000. There is a demonstration scheduled for the train that would be used for the visitors at the zoo. Tokens can be purchased at the gift store to ride and take a tour of the zoo. Jane Goodal will be visiting soon.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20