

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

February 7, 2012

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Julie Napier, Leigh Black, Jeff Goodin and Leroy King. Absent were Amber Cree and Toney Gutierrez. Community Services staff present were, Larry Johnson, Interim Director, Lesli Andrews, Interim Assistant Director, Bob Cheatham, Parks Superintendent, Kelly Messer, Legal Department; and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary.

Gail Russey called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Invocation was given by Leroy King.

Julie Napier moved that the minutes be approved for the November 15, 2011, meeting. Jeff Goodin seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Presentation of Service Award: Lesli Andrews presented Rose Brewster with a 15 year award, Rose works in the kitchen at Rose Senior Citizens.

Presentation of Winter Leisure Guide: Lesli stated that we are now taking credit cards for all recreation, reservations and classes. Rose Recreation has doubled it's after school numbers since we were able to make arrangements with AISD to drop off near that location. Planning has begun on the Steam n Wheels for March 24, 2012, Daddy Daughter Dance will be held February 9, 2012. The tennis center has won a bid to have team tennis competition for 3 years. Recreation will be hosting the TAAF track meet in July. Cobb Senior Citizens will be hosting a Dinner/Dance for a fund raiser.

Operational Report (Recreation/Senior Citizens): Lesli stated that the new maintenance position has made a huge impact on saving money on maintenance at the Recreation Centers and has made it possible to do needed repairs. The City has partnered with Abilene Youth Basketball Association and refurbished Rose Park Recreation's floor The Youth Advisory Council had took a tour of Hendricks and the Mayor was the guest speaker. Lesli stated that she is getting references from a company listed on the buy board to construct the Splash Pad at Nelson Park.

Operational Report (Parks): Bob stated that they have almost completed the Carver Playground replacement project. The concrete planters on the north side have been replaced. The Sears pedestrian bridge wooden planks are being replaced with treated Douglas fir. Baseball is beginning to kick off, so fields are being prepared. Irrigation is being installed at Redbud Girls Softball field. The Armory has moved out of the building at Rose Park, preparations are being made to move the Rose Park Maintenance shop to that building. A few trees are being removed that were damaged by the drought.

Operational Report (Zoo): Bill stated that zoo staff completed installation of safety netting over the Attwater's prairie chicken breeding facility. This was necessary to protect the birds from predators and was funded by the US Fish and Wildlife Service which partners with the Abilene Zoo in a program to breed and release the endangered Attwater's prairie chicken. Zoo staff continued work

on the Pampas exhibit including fence construction and installation. This exhibit of South American animals is scheduled to open March 9th of this year. There are several roofing projects; bird holding, Zebra barn and education center. The train station should be completed in the next few months. The Zoo Society had a planning retreat at Fossil Rim.

Gail suggested that the Board Members take a tour of the Parks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05