

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

June 4, 2013

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Leroy King, Robyn Wertheim, Jeff Goodin and Julie Napier. Absent were Leigh Black and Gary Grubbs. Community Services staff present were, James W. Childers, Director, Lesli Andrews, Assistant Director, Bob Cheatham, Parks Superintendent, Donnie Hart, Recreation Supervisor, Bill Gersonde, Zoo Superintendent, Stan Smith, Legal Department; and Linda Hansen, Executive Secretary.

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

Invocation was given by Jeff Goodin.

Julie Napier moved that the minutes be approved for the May 7, 2013 meeting. Jeff Goodin seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Presentation of Service Award: Richard Rodgers presented a 10 year service award to David Almanzer. David works on section 5 in the Parks Department.

Request for permit to serve beer and wine at fund raiser event: James stated that a request in writing was received requesting a permit to serve wine and beer at the Zoobilation event on September 13, 2013. Money raised from the benefit will help pay for the Giraffe Exhibit. Julie Napier made a motion to issue a permit on the condition that all requirements are met. Jeff Goodin seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed.

Operational Report (Recreation/Senior Citizens): Donnie stated that the orientation for summer employees is being held this week. The meet and greet was a success. The recreation center participants collected money for the victims of Moore Oklahoma, the money will be donated to the City of Moore's Recreation Department. The Military Affairs Committee paid for vouchers for Dyess Personnel to attend the City of Abilene pools.

Operational Report (Parks): Richard stated that the restrooms at Wilson Park and Lee Park are almost completed. There were a lot of trees damaged in the wind storm. Irrigation crews have been working on several leaks. Parts are being ordered for Rose Playground for repairs.

Operational Report (Zoo): Bill stated that the work continues on the Caribbean Cove exhibit. Enclosures near completion, landscaping has been secured and animals are arriving all in preparation for a late June opening. With several new species of animals, tropical looking plants and shady rest areas, this exhibit is sure to be a hit with our zoo visitors.

The animal collection continues to grow with the hatching of several endangered Attwater's Prairie chickens and Caribbean flamingos. Numerous amphibians have also reproduced including the red eyed coqui frog from Puerto Rico. The adults were collected by zoo staff in Puerto Rico and this is a first time breeding for this species in any AZA accredited Zoo.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.