

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

July 2, 2013

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 2, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Leroy King, Leigh Black, Gary Grubbs and Julie Napier. Absent were Robyn Wertheim and Jeff Goodin. Community Services staff present were, James W. Childers, Director, Lesli Andrews, Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Interim Parks Superintendent, Jeff White Recreation/Senior Administrator, Bill Gersonde, Zoo Superintendent, Theresa James, 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 June 4, 2013 meeting. Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Request to charge admission: Richard Rodgers stated that the Abilene Ravens Football would be having home games that they would like to charge admission to help cover expenses to pay the officiating crew and any other game specific expenses. Gary Grubbs made a motion to allow the charging for attendance. Leigh Black seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed.

Parks and Recreation Month: James stated that July is Parks and Recreation Month with several events scheduled. The Adaptive Recreation will be receiving a proclamation from the Mayor for Therapeutic Week. Party in the Park is scheduled for July 25, 2013. Citizens will be served a hot dog, drink and chips. There will be a bounce house and other fun activities. The winner for the picture and statement contest "My Abilene Parks and Recreation is _____" will be recognized at the July 25th Council meeting. The Park Bucks fund has purchased 3 compacting trash cans to be placed at the Splash Pad, signs that states they were purchased with these funds will be posted on the compactors. There will be a QR code on the compactor that will take them to our web page and give information on Parks Bucks. There will also be a flyer inserted in all new water customers packet.

Operational Report (Recreation/Senior Citizens): Jeff stated that the summer program first session had 518 participants. Women's Basketball League is scheduled to begin in July. Movie in the Park for July will be "Dolphin Tale". There will be a freestyle art contest event at each recreation center. Daniels and the Carver Youth Center hosted a Senior Prom for the seniors. The Corner Stone Award will be presented at the Agency on Aging Conference to the Senior Program.

Operational Report (Parks): Richard stated that the parks receive significant damages from the storm. Vaughn Camp and Rose Park received the most damage; we had 12 large trees damaged. Other areas with damage were Festival Garden and a ball field fence. Crews gearing up for July 4th, the umbrellas at the Splash Pad should be delivered. The restrooms at Nelson Wilson Park and Lee Park are open to the public.

Operational Report (Zoo): Bill stated that the Caribbean Cove opened to the public on June 27th. Home to a variety of animals, this former underdeveloped and outdated area was transformed into a fun and interesting home to a variety of species including monkeys, parrots, frogs and toucans. In addition numerous Texas hardy tropical looking plants surround the exhibits and brightly colored tables and chairs provide a comfortable area for guests to relax and enjoy a sno-cone. Fund raising continues on the Giraffe exhibit.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.