

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

August 6, 2013

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Leroy King, Leigh Black, Gary Grubbs, Jeff Goodin and Julie Napier. Absent was Robyn Wertheim. 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, 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 Jeff Goodin.

Jeff Goodin moved that the minutes be approved for the July 2, 2013 meeting. Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Request to charge admission: Richard Rodgers stated that the LULAC would be having a tournament that they would like to charge admission to help cover expenses to pay the officiating crew and any other game specific expenses. The profits of the tournament will be given as scholarships. Jeff Goodin made a motion to allow the charging for attendance. Julie Napier seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed.

Parks Master Plan Contract: James stated that the bids for consulting firm have been received, Halff and Associates was chosen. They will be meeting with the Cedar Creek Trail Committee and would like more robust community input, different avenues for funding as well as the Aquatic System. Julie Napier made a motion to accept the contract. Jeff Goodin seconded the motion, with all in favor the motion passed.

Budget updates: James stated that the revised 2013 budget was approved. There are several items in the 2014 budget that will be funded if approved, safety service at Rose Park, Everman Park fountain as well as a 3% raise for the employees.

Update on new Parks and Recreation initiatives: James stated that July was Park and Recreation Month and the new logo was unveiled. Several activities and contests were scheduled; Photo contest, "My Park and Recreation is _____", art contest at the recreation centers, enhance web social media with a New Parks and Recreation page on Facebook, Party in the Park, purchased 3 new Big Belly trash compactors for the Splashpad area with information stating that they were purchased with Park Bucks.

Operational Report (Recreation/Senior Citizens): Jeff stated that the Seniors had live entertainment for the July 4th celebration. A talent show for Senior Citizens is scheduled September 14th at the Civic Center. The women's basketball league was a success with 9 teams. We are gearing up for Men's and Women's Flag Football in September. A quilt was made from old t-shirts that will be used for special events. Abilene was chosen to host the 2015 TRAPS Conference.

Operational Report (Parks): Richard stated that Big Belly trash compactors have saved time on emptying trash, the containers were able to go 5 days without emptying, when previously emptied twice a day. The replacement umbrellas were installed after being damaged by wind. The Sears concession and storage building are being replaced at Sears Big League.

Operational Report (Zoo): Bill stated that the Caribbean Cove has been a great success with attendance being up 10,000 visitors. The Necropsy and Quarantine Building is on track and should be finished in October. The final Concert in the Park was a success with Muddy Creek Band being featured.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.