

## PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

March 11, 2014

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Robyn Wertheim, Leroy King, Leigh Black, Julie Napier, and Jeff Goodin. Absent was Gary Grubbs. Community Services staff present were Lesli Andrews, Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Parks Superintendent, Jeff White, Recreation/Senior Administrator, Bill Gersonde, Zoo, Stanley Smith, Legal Department, and Steffany Whitehead, Secretary.

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

Invocation was given by Leroy King.

Jeff Goodin moved that the minutes be approved for the February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting. Julie Napier seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Richard introduced Michael McBride as the new supervisor for the Parks Division.

**Presentation of Service Award:** Jeff White presented Anita Vigil with her 20 years of service award.

**Request to charge admission for Abilene Slow-pitch Softball Association:** Lesli Andrews stated we are taking this situation one month at a time so that the insurance issues can be worked out. The tournament March 15-16<sup>th</sup> would have a \$8.00 spectator fee. Any special groups must fill out a Request to Use Parks form so that we have control on what comes through. Jeff Goodin motioned to accept the ASSA request. Leroy King seconded the motion. Motion passes.

**Parks Master Plan Update:** Lesli Andrews stated that the public meeting for the Parks Master Plan Update went very well and had close to 100 participants. A phone survey was taken in January and the main items that citizens wish to see more of are water features and walking trails. Information from both the phone survey and the public meeting are being compiled into a draft and should be ready in a few months.

**Operational Report (Recreation/Seniors):** Jeff White stated that the Senior division served roughly 10,000 meals and provided 1,500 rides in February. The staff is preparing for the Appreciation party for its volunteers and also the Wellness Jamboree. Also, currently there is an Eagle Scout who is working on a project at the Senior Center redoing patio furniture. In the Recreation division the Daddy Daughter Dance went smoothly. The Krew of Barkus also went well and had a good turnout. Spring Break Camp is capped at 77 participants. Coming up is the Steam N Wheels bike race and the Special Olympics with Adaptive Recreation.

**Operational Report (Parks):** Richard Rodgers stated that the Sears playground is being finished up, waiting on a few pieces. Redbud playground demo will start soon. They are finishing up the bullpens at Kirby Park. There will be new surfaces at Rose Park and Richard is working out payment agreements with the company they purchased parts from.

**Operational Report (Zoo):** Bill Gersonde stated that the participant numbers are great with the warmer weather. There have been changes in the concession stand to be more efficient. A consultant came in to review our customer services and how we can better them. The zoo has three new ostriches to join the one female that is there. Ground has been broken on the giraffe exhibit and should be finished in September. The AZA Accreditation is scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:24pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 a.m.