

## PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

August 5, 2014

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Leroy King, Julie Napier, Jeff Goodin, Leigh Black, and Gary Grubbs. Members not present were Robyn Wertheim. Community Services staff present were James Childers, Director, Lesli Andrews, Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Parks Superintendent, Jeff White, Recreation/Senior Administrator, Bill Gersonde, Zoo Division Manager, Stanley Smith, Legal Department, and Tammie Morton, Secretary.

Gail Russey called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Invocation was given by Jeff Goodin.

Jeff Goodin moved that the minutes be approved for the July 1, 2014 meeting. Leigh Black seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Employee Award Presentation:** Jeff White presented Steve Miller with a fifteen year service award. Richard Rogers presented Raymond Williams with a ten year service award.

**Amendment to the lease agreement with Abilene Community Theater:** Lesli Andrews presented an amendment to the ACT contract. This amendment would extend the ACT contract for 1 year to complete needed improvements required by the City of Abilene. Julie Napier made a motion for approval and Jeff Goodin seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Approval of real property lease extension to Fort Phantom Bridge Unit:** Stanley Smith discussed that the Fort Phantom Bridge Unit has been operating on 10 year agreements, 1988-1998, 1998-2008. A formal contract for the 2008-2018 lease could not be located, so the City of Abilene would like to execute a formal third agreement to extend the lease from 2008-2018. Jeff Goodin made a motion to approve and Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Non-Profit Parks Foundation:** James Childers stated that about 6 months prior he gave a presentation about the Parks Buck Program, and how it works. This concept works differently in every city, a comparison will be made to other cities to see how the different operating models work and to determine what is the best fit for Abilene.

**Approval of Parks Master Plan:** James Childers explained that Jim Carillo, with HALFF Associates, had given a presentation about the Parks Master Plan and that if the board accepted the draft, an approval needed to be made. Information was also given about West Texas Science Center wanting to make an update to Lake Kirby. Gary Grubbs made a motion to approve and Julie Napier seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Bond Update:** James Childers informed the board that the bond meetings had been set for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. He would like Parks Board input and if possible a meeting would be set prior to his Bond Presentation.

### **Operational Report (Recreation/Seniors)(Parks)(Zoo):**

**Recreation:** Rose Park's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration was a huge success. "The Nut Job" was the last movie in the park to end the summer. This year in the Summer Playground, 100 more kids were enrolled than the previous year. Upcoming events are Woman's/Men's Basketball, the Duathlon on September 27<sup>th</sup>, and the TRAPS conference in March of 2015.

**Seniors:** The Senior Center Talent show was on August 16, 2014 and is used as a fundraiser for the senior citizens. Also, the Senior Services Division turns 40 this year, and a celebration is being planned.

**Parks:** Parks has been busy mowing, recently finished the fishing dock at Lake Fort Phantom, and completed putting up the sculptures downtown. They also replaced the sign at Gill Park.

**Zoo:** Attendance for the year has been up and the rain has tremendously helped with the growth. The giraffe exhibit renovation is on schedule. The position for the Zoo Curator is posted.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.