

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

May 5, 2015

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gail Russey, Leroy King, Jeff Goodin, Robyn Wertheim, Julie Napier and Gary Grubbs. Members not present were Leigh Black. Community Services staff present were James Childers, Director, Lesli Andrews, Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Parks Division Manager, Jeff White, Recreation/Senior Administrator, Bill Gersonde, Zoo Division Manager Stanley Smith, Legal Department, and Kaitlin Richardson, Secretary.

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

Invocation was given by Leroy King

Leroy King moved that the minutes be approved for the April 7, 2015 meeting. Julie Napier seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Presentation of Service Award: Richard presented Mike Soliz's 10 year service award. Mike is one of Parks crew chiefs who oversee the staff who maintains the downtown area.

Community Foundation of Abilene Check Presentation: This line item is rescheduled for next meeting.

Bond Update: James informed the board that early voting is today. James had an opportunity to go over the entire bond projects listed under Community Services with KRBC. This week KTXS will be going over bond projects too. James made a presentation yesterday to the Senior center about the entire Bond, and assured them of the water conservation concerns with aquatic projects.

Parks Foundation: James has broken down the analysis of the foundation process into 3 options. First would be to raise money and to not apply for a non-profit tax exemption. All the money raised would go to a balance sheet. The second option is to develop under an existing 501©3 organization. The con about this option would be under an organization that could shift their goal or objective that wouldn't reflect the views of what the Parks Foundation would fall under. Option 3 is to obtain 501©3, which would take time and commitment to get this started. Our best option would be to go with option 3 and obtain a 501©3. Someone needs to take leadership on the process of getting the Parks Foundation up and running and to sit on the board.

Vote for Officers: Gail Russey has announced her resignation of her term as Chair. Gail has made a recommendation to nominate Gary Grubbs as the next chair. Julie nominates Leroy King as Vice Chair and Robyn second. Julie's term is up and is stepping down from the board. James advises the board that he will need names of people who may be interested in being a part of the Parks and Recreation board by this week.

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

Recreation and Seniors: Senior Wellness Jamboree is tomorrow, there will be door prizes and guest speakers. April is the month to recognize volunteers. The Splash Pad is up and running. The Rose Park pool will open May 30th. We are now accepting Summer Playground Program registration.

Parks: Mowing season is in full swing. The Nelson Park pavilions anticipated to be up in 6-8 weeks. The redbud workout project is on hold until we receive the finished contract.

Zoo: The giraffe project is 4 weeks behind schedule and you can see the bridge from S.11th Street. The carousel shade is up and the ribbon cutting will be May 27th at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.


Chair


Secretary