

## PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

August 4, 2015

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gary Grubbs, Leroy King, Jeff Goodin, Leigh Black, Robyn Wertheim, Marc Orner, and Terry Johnson. Community Services staff present were James Childers, Director, Lesli Andrews, Assistant Director, Mike McBride, Parks Division Supervisor, Jeff White, Recreation/Senior Administrator, Bill Gersonde, Zoo Division Manager, and Kaitlin Richardson, Secretary.

Gary Grubbs called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Invocation was given by Leroy King

Robyn Wertheim moved that the minutes be approved for the June 2, 2015 meeting. Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Introduction of new board members:** Gary Grubbs introduced the new board members, Mark Orner and Terry Johnson to the Parks and Recreation Board.

**Service Award presentations and Employee Recognition:** James Childers presented Bill Gersonde's 5 year service award. James Childers introduced Omar Rodriguez; Omar was recently promoted to Pars Supervisor. Jeff White presented David Olsen his 5 year service award.

**Amendment to lease agreement with Abilene Community Theatre:** Lesli Andrews introduced the renewal lease agreement with the Abilene Community Theatre. The Abilene Community Theatre has requested to renew its lease for one additional year. Marc Orner moved that the request be approved. Robyn Wertheim seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Request from Abilene Christian School Football team to charge admission to their home games for the 2015 season:** James Childers explained to the board that ACHS wants to use the Curly Hayes field, and to charge an admission fee. ACHS in previous years has used the ACU field, but the field is currently under construction. The funds that are raised during their season will go back into the school budget. Terry Johnson moved for the request to be approved. Leigh Black seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Alameda Community Center Partnership:** Erica Currie the director of the Alameda Community Center explained to the board what the Alameda Community Center is involved in and what this center means to the Community in this area. The Alameda Community Center wants to install a playground and a basketball court in the area. The Center has raise all the funds needed to go forth with this project. Since the Alameda Community Center was established the crime rate has gone down 10%, and this area is known for the highest crime rate in Abilene. The Alameda Community Center is asking that the City of Abilene to be responsible for the liability of this playground. Jeff Goodin moved that the request be approved. Robyn Wertheim seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Budget Update:** James Childers informed the board that the Council has had their first budget review. The budget includes, reconstructing 4 tennis courts at Rose Tennis Center. The Senior Center replacing the carpet in the dining area, and will also replace the steamer in the kitchen area. The Zoo will replace a walk in freezer. Also the revenue that has been received from the tournament fee for each team involved will go back into those facilities being used.

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

**Bond Status:** We are in the preliminary stages of getting the Aquatics Facility project process wrapped up with a firm to design the facility by the Spring of 2016. James Childers stated that we are anticipating the Splash Pads to be completed in the Spring of 2016. The new Flamingo Exhibit with seated areas has been approved as well.

**Recreation:** August is Parks and Recreation month. The Big ½ Marathon will be August 29<sup>th</sup> at Shotwell Stadium.

Seniors: The Senior Talent Show will be August 15<sup>th</sup>. There is a new Social Media class being offered to the seniors at the center.

Parks: In process of selecting on demand engineers to help with development of Parks location floodways. There has been a significant amount of mowing since the heavy rain.


Zoo: At the Zoo 4 Flamingo, and 7 Moroccan Cobra eggs have hatched. The Giraffe project is moving right along as expected. The old education building is now called Caribou Outpost, which will be a bird exhibit as well as a place to rent.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.



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Chair



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Secretary