

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

May 17, 2016

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gary Grubbs, Leigh Black, Terry Johnson, Leroy King, Robyn Wertheim, and Marc Orner. Board members not present were Jeff Goodin. Community Services staff present were Lesli Andrews, Director, Mirenda Walden, Interim Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Parks Division Manager, Jeff White, Recreation/Senior Administrator, John Black, Zoo Division Supervisor, Stanley Smith, Legal and Kaitlin Richardson, Secretary.

Gary Grubbs called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Invocation was given by Leroy King.

Robyn Wertheim moved that the minutes be approved for the April 5th, 2016 meeting. Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Employee Service Award: Richard Rodgers presented Steve O'Shaughnessy's 10 year service award. Steve O'Shaughnessy is the mechanic for the Parks Division equipment.

Community Foundation check presentation: Jeff White introduced Billy Napier with the Community Foundation. Mr. Napier informed the board that since 2008 this entity has given a total of \$74,000. Mr. Napier presented the Recreation Department a \$10,000 check for scholarships for the Summer Camp.

Acceptance of park donated land for the Alameda Playground: Lesli Andrews informed the board that the Alameda Community Center would like to dedicate the playground back to the City. If this agreement is approved the Parks Division would maintain the area. Gary Grubbs made a recommendation to the City Council to support entering into an MOU agreement for the dedication of the Alameda Playground back to the City of Abilene. Marc Orner moved to approve the support of entering into an MOU agreement. Terry Johnson seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Request to charge admissions for League of United Latin American Citizens Softball Tournament: Richard Rodgers presented the board a request to charge admissions for the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) softball tournament. The revenue collected from the admission fees would go towards scholarships. Robyn Wertheim moved to approve this request. Leroy King seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Update on current and proposed Parks, Recreation, Senior Citizens, and Zoo fees for recommendation to City Council: Lesli Andrews presented a spreadsheet with the Parks and Recreation fees of what they are now and what the proposed fee will be if approved. These fees will be presented to the City Manager on June 2nd. Jeff White explained the increase fee rates for the recreation and activity buildings we offer to the public for reservations, and compared rental prices with the surrounding sister cities. The proposed fees are still lower than our surrounding areas. We are proposing possible rentals for pavilions in our Parks for individuals to reserve. Richard Rodgers informed the board that as of now food trucks are not permitted into the Parks and we are proposing to allow them into the Parks. Leroy King would like to table item 5 on the fee spreadsheet concerning the food truck permit fees. Marc Orner seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Review of current and proposed Parks and Recreation projects for recommendation to City Council: Lesli Andrews stated that one project that has been added is the parking lot in Stevenson, Rose and Scarborough Parks which is the location of the new Splash Pads and the Aquatic Center. Another item would be resurfacing the outside basketball court at G.V Daniels Recreation.

Update on Nelson Park master plan: Michael Black with La Terra Studios presented the board a slide show of the Parks Master plan and how it was created. Mr. Black explained one of the issues he is still in the process of resolving is the access to the pending AYSA facility. Gary Grubbs made a motion for the staff to continue with the plan to discuss concerns with TXDOT, and to present the final plans to the board before City Council's final approval. Terry Johnson Moved to approve. Leigh Black seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Vote for Chair and Vice Chair for 2016-2017 term: Lesli Andrews informed the board that Leroy King has decided not to renew his term. The board would like to nominate Gary Grubbs as Chair, and Terry Johnson for Vice Chair. Robyn Werthiem moved to approve the nominations. Leigh Black seconded the motion. With all in favor the motion carried.

Discussion regarding possible names for the vacant Parks Board position: Gary Grubbs asked the board for nominations, and to submit the names to him and Lesli Andrews.

Information report on the recent Zoo Exhibit grand opening: John Black stated that the Zoo's Giraffe Exhibit grand opening had about 5,000 individuals attend. This new exhibit was a big hit, and everyone who attended gave positive feedback.

Operational Report (Zoo) (Parks) (Recreation/Senior Citizens):

Zoo: Tabled for the next meeting

Parks: Tabled for the next meeting

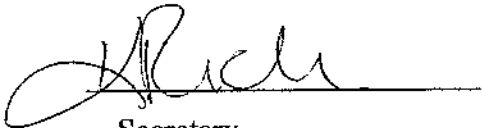
Recreation: Tabled for the next meeting

Seniors: Tabled for the next meeting

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.



Chair



Secretary