

## PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

May 2, 2017

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gary Grubbs, Leigh Black, Marc Orner, Michael Homer, Terry Johnson, Robyn Wertheim, and Jeff Goodin. Community Services staff present were Lesli Andrews, Director, Chris Gibson, Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Parks Division Manager, Bill Gersonde, Zoo Division Manager, Jeff White, Recreation Division Manager, Stanley Smith, Legal and Kaitlin Richardson, Secretary.

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

Invocation was given by Jeff Goodin.

Robyn Wertheim moved that the minutes be approved for the Regular Meeting on May 2, 2017 and the Special Called Meeting on April 11, 2017. Jeff Goodin seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Community Foundation of Abilene check presentation:** Lesli Andrews stated that the representative with the Community Foundation of Abilene could not make it to the meeting, and we greatly appreciate their support for the Summer Camp program. This check is for scholarships for the Summer Camp program.

**Discussion of agreement with Dixie Little League to place webcams with video cameras at the baseball fields located at Jackson Park.** Lesli Andrews stated that Dixie Little League has request to place webcams with video cameras at the baseball fields. Jeff Goodin moved to approve the request. Michael Homer seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Vote for Chair and Vice Chair for 2017-2018 term:** Robyn Wertheim moved to nominate Gary Grubbs as Chairman. Leigh Black seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried. Marc Orner moved to nominate Terry Johnson as Vice Chair. Leigh Black seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Discussion of possible changes to Parks Bucks:** Lesli Andrews stated that anyone wanting to make a donation can do so on their water bill. These funds go towards different projects in the parks. Gary Grubbs suggested we change our opt in option to the opt out option. Terry Johnson asked Lesli Andrews if we have a set goal. Lesli Andrews stated that we do not have a set goal, but the average playground cost is between \$60,000-\$70,000, so planning a new playground would take a couple of years. As of now, we have 1,500 out of 40,000 individuals participating. Marc Orner suggested we broadcast Parks Bucks a little more to draw in more people.

**Approval of agreement between Abilene Chamber of Commerce for the Key City Keys program:** Lesli Andrews provided a draft copy of the Key City Keys agreement, which will have a piano in the park. This piano would be available to the public to play, and would like to place in Minter Park. Jeff Goodin asked how we would keep the piano functional. This piano is going to be donated and Key City Keys will be responsible for tuning it. The piano will also be secured. Jeff Goodin moved the motion to approve this agreement. Robyn Wertheim seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

**Bond Status Update:** Item tabled.

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


**Recreation:** Jeff White stated we are accepting registrations for Summer Camp, and the Grand Slam Tennis Tournament will be in June.

**Seniors:** April is the month to honor volunteers, in which Seniors has over 100 volunteers. The Wellness Jamboree is next month, and the theme is 70's.

**Zoo:** Bill Gersonde explained to the board that they are making good progress on the bond projects. The Zoo is expecting Manned Wolf pups next summer. During the first month of opening, the paddleboats have brought in \$10,000 in revenue.

**Parks:** Richard Rodgers stated that the Parks Department is working on the Adam's Spalding Sculpture Garden, and mowing.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping initial 'S' followed by a horizontal line.

Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Pickle', written over a horizontal line.

Secretary