

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

July 11, 2017

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Services Board Room. Board members present were Gary Grubbs, Leigh Black, Terry Johnson, Robyn Wertheim, and Jeff Goodin. Board members not present were Marc Orner, and Michael Homer. 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 8:37 a.m.

Invocation was given by Jeff Goodin.

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

Employee Service Award: Richard Rodgers presented Michael Santos his 10-year service award. Michael Santos works in the cemetery as an Equipment Operator.

Adopting the Parks and Recreation Board Rules of Order: Jeff Goodin moved to approve adopting the Rules of Order. Robyn Wertheim seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Discussion of possible changes to Parks Bucks: Lesli Andrews introduced Priscilla Rayford who is the Water Utilities Division Manager at the Water Office. Chris Gibson stated that any new customer who signs up for water has the option to opt in to donate a \$1.00 a month on their water bill. Some of the questions we have received is how do we promote this option, and the realization is that we have not been campaigning this option. Another option is providing a tier program for individuals who are wanting to donate more than just \$1.00 a month. Priscilla Rayford stated we do have the ability to offer the tier option, but the software does not have the ability to offer an option to pay any amount you want. Leigh Black asked how the public knows where there donations are going to. Lesli Andrews stated that we are trying to push placing a "Paid for by Parks Bucks" logo.

Remove from Table "Designate City land around Lake Kirby as Park land": Leigh Black moved to remove the "Designate City land around Lake Kirby as Park land" from Table. Robyn Wertheim seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried. Lesli Andrews informed the board we are going in a direction of taking land around Lake Kirby and designating it as Park land, but if we designated it too soon, then we lose an opportunity to apply for a certain type of grant. An additional party has shown interest in allocating resources to develop park area for use in early childhood education.

Discussion of the Grand Slam Tennis Tournament: Lesli Andrews presented a video of the Grand Slam Tennis Tournament. This tournament received positive feedback from everyone attending. Robyn Wertheim stated that out of 1,000 kids 12 qualified from Abilene to participate in the tournament.

Discussion of the Sports Advisory Committee and Recreation Advisory Committee: Lesli Andrews stated that we have received good attendance the first couple of meetings and recently the attendance has gone down. The Recreation Advisory Committee is a new committee that is currently being formed. Odis Dalton will be running the committee.

Discussion of the Urban Movement: Chris Gibson presented a short video on Urban Movement. The concept behind it is physical fitness such as, Parkour. As of right now, they are currently geared towards children and to properly show the techniques and movements. Chris Gibson stated we are currently looking at one of our Parks that is not highly used for this type of activity to build different structures. Gary Grubbs asked if there is a few parks we have in mind. Richard Rodgers stated we could use Kirby Park, or even North Park.

Parks and Recreation Budget Update: Lesli Andrews stated that the budget has been submitted and from all

indications, the budget will stay flat. The budget will go to the City Council Workshop on July 25-27th.

Bond Status Update: Lesli Andrews informed the board that the Aquatic Center is going very well, and attendance is higher than expected. The concession sales is slightly higher than expected. The afternoon shift is coming close to selling out each day. The design for the two new splash pads is underway.

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

Recreation: Youth Volleyball registration is open. July is Parks and Recreation month. The next movie in the park will be at Scarborough Park and the movie Sing will be showing.

Seniors: Jeff White stated that the Senior Talent Show will be on August 26 and they currently have 20 acts scheduled. Registration for Senior Games is open.

Zoo: Bill Gersonde stated that the attendance is down from last year. Two flamingo chick eggs have hatched. The bond projects are on track and going great.

Parks: Richard Rodgers informed the board that the Parks Department was involved with the USTA tennis tournament, and the Aquatic Center irrigation. The three on three basketball goals at Carver Park will be installed and completed soon.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.



Chair



Secretary