

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

August 20, 2019

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers. Board members present were, Jeff Goodin, Michael Homer, Robyn Wertheim and Leigh Black. Board members not present were Marc Orner, Gary Grubbs and David Pittman. Community Services staff present were Lesli Andrews, Director, Chris Gibson, Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Parks Division Manager, Ann Hall, Recreation Division Manager, Bobby Brown, Senior Services Division Manager, Stanley Smith, Legal, and Kathy Tarango, Secretary.

Michael Homer called the meeting to order at 8:29 a.m.

Invocation was given by Jeff Goodin.

Robyn Wertheim moved the minutes be approved for the Regular Meeting on July 16 2019. Jeff Goodin seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Service Awards: Lesli Andrews stated that Chanelle Evans was unable to make it. Chris Gibson presented Krista Radars 10 year service award with the Zoo.

Request for approval for constructing the new Madagascar Exhibit: Chris Gibson stated the newest project for the Abilene Zoo is the Madagascar Exhibit. Madagascar is one of the largest islands in the world. This exhibit will house lemurs and fossa, which is a feline type animal. The exhibit will be located on the northwest side by the lake near the fishing pier. Jeff Goodin moved to approve the request. Robyn Wertheim seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Operational Reports:

Seniors: Bobby Brown provided participation numbers for the classes, meals served and transportation. The talent show is coming up and there will be thirty acts.

Aquatics: Bobby Brown stated that on August 23 there was a Champions Day. This event had about 203 participants and received positive feedback. Adventure Cove will only be open on weekends now through September 2. The splash pads will be open until the middle of October. Doggie Splash Day is on September 7.

Recreation: Ann Hall stated the afterschool program is filling up quickly. There will be a new Community Event. The Recreation Department is collaborating with the Library and the Zoo. This event will take place at Festival Gardens and will be free admission. The All-Star Basketball League is now open for registrations for ages 6-7 years. We are preparing for our Haunted Half Marathon on October 12.

Zoo: Chris Gibson stated the Rock and Roar series has been a great event. Zoobilation is coming up and will have special feature animals presented. This event is the Zoo's fundraising event. The Zoo had over 6,000 volunteer hours for this year's Zoo Teen Program.

Parks: Richard Rodgers stated that AISD has cancelled their field agreement and we are currently in the negotiation phase. We have a plan for the dinosaur project at Lake Kirby and we are hoping to bring those to everyone next month. We have received two grants for the Minter Park project and it looks like the updates we want to do will be completely funded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 a.m.



Chair



Secretary