

**PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MEETING**

March 17, 2020

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers. Board members present were Gary Grubbs, Michael Homer, David Pittman, and Robyn Wertheim. Board members not present were Jeff Goodin, Leigh Black, and Marc Orner. Community Services staff present were Lesli Andrews, Director, Chris Gibson, Assistant Director, Stanley Smith, Legal, and Chairyl Clark, Secretary.

Gary Grubbs called the meeting to order at 8:30a.m.

Invocation Gary Grubbs gave the invocation.

Open forum for public comment: No comments

Acceptance of Minutes from January 21, 2020: Robyn Wertheim moved the minutes be approved for the Regular Agenda Meeting on January 21,2020. Michael Homer Jr. seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Service awards: Presented by Jesse Pottabaum for Zoo employee Phillip Nigro and by Ann Hall for Recreation Division employee Raquel Garrett.

Presentation of Feasibility Study: by Lesli Andrews. The recommendations are: 3 replacement facilities, G.V. Daniels, Sears, Chavez. 93,900 SF, with 1 new future facility at Kirby Lake Park. 85,610 SF. Also quick analysis recommendation for the Adaptive Recreation Center. Lesli Andrews confirmed this would be a City Council decision, and depending on the funding source, would go to the Abilene voters. Citizens were encouraged to complete the 2020 Census.

Update Minter Park: Plan to be completed by mid-May.

Discussion regarding closures: Due to precautions of COVID19, the Convention Center will close March 18, 2020. The zoo closed March 16,2020. The Abilene public library hours are reduced to 10 am to 6 pm Monday through Saturday for Main and South, Mockingbird will be closed. All reservations are being cancelled. The Senior Center will close March 18, 2020, offering drive through lunches from 11 am to 1 pm, Monday through Friday. Recreation centers will be closed. Beginning March 18, 2020 the City will be offering childcare for City employees. Splash pads and Adventure Cove to remain closed until further notice.

Operational Reports:

Recreation: Daddy Daughter Dance - it was a huge success even after the day delay due to weather

Special Olympics- Adaptive Recreation basketball special olympics was a lot of fun

Spring Break Camp - was located at G. V. Daniels and sold out

Steam N Wheels - 68 participants braved the rain

Zoo: Madagascar Exhibit- groundbreaking

Animal care update- Teddy the North American black bear passed away. Three maned wolf triplets were born

Leap Day 2020 - was a huge success

Spring Break - was a huge success

Senior Discovery Day - cancelled due to Covid

Easter at the Zoo - cancelled due to Covid

Parks: Spring Projects- mowing season begins

Winter projects - backstops at Sears and Redbud, refurbished patio at Community Services, new fishing dock at Johnson Park, sidewalk replacement at Nelson Park, tree trimming crew trimmed 250 trees, 131,000 sq ft of landscape beds, and lots of painting

Senior Division: Senior Trip - cancelled due to Covid

St. Patrick's Day Bingo - will be today with an expectation of numerous participants

March Movies - cancelled due to Covid

Upcoming events - cancelled due to Covid

Aquatics: working to get lifeguard jobs posted



Chairman



Secretary