

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

July 18, 2023

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 555 Walnut Street, Abilene, TX. Board members present were Gary Grubbs, Leigh Black, Tony Pallarez and Tanell Blackmon. Parks & Recreation staff present were Lesli Andrews, Director, Chris Gibson, Assistant Director, Richard Rodgers, Assistant Director, Bobby Brown, Seniors Division Manager, Jesus Coronado, Parks Division Manager, Jesse Pottebaum, Zoo Director, Kelly Messer, Legal and Janina Aguero, Secretary.

Gary Grubbs called the meeting to order at 8:30 am

Invocation: Leigh Black gave the invocation.

Public Comment:

Billy Enriquez, Abilene resident, was speaking on behalf of the Sears Park Community and wanted to thank the board and Lesli Andrews for everything being completed at Sears Park. Billy stated that everything from the Sears Park Community checklist is almost completed and wanted to give thanks.

Service Award: Brad Bardin presented Simon Camacho with his service award for 10 years of service.

Acceptance of Minutes from June 20, 2023: Tony Pallarez moved the minutes to be approved. Tanell Blackmon seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Rose Tennis Center Expansion: Lesli Andrews discussed being approached by a private group of citizens wanting to raise funds to add fields for pickleball and updated tennis courts. Lesli talked about how Jacob & Martin created a conceptual expansion. Lesli mentioned this new expansion is still being planned out and certain factors are being discussed such as restrooms, lighting and noise issues.

Public Comment: None

Action: Tony Pallarez moved the progression for this concept to continue to be developed. Leigh Black seconded, with all in favor the motion carried.

Aquatics Report: Bobby Brown gave the aquatics report. Bobby updated the board on the swim lessons taking place at Adventure Cove with additional dates added featuring 4 sessions/8 classes each.

Parks Report: Jesus Coronado gave the parks report. Jesus showed the board photos of tree damage that occurred during the recent storms that the Parks Team

cleaned up. Jesus talked about receiving replacement parts for playground items at Redbud and Nelson Wilson Parks. Jesus reviewed labor hours used during March-June, with 5310 on maintenance, 30 on graffiti, 1285 on building maintenance, 1417 on landscape and 1212 on litter/restrooms. Jesus mentioned the activities for Parks & Recreation Month finishing up with Arrghapalooza on July 30th.

Recreation Report: Chris Gibson gave the Recreation Report. Chris showed event photos from Movie Night in the Park on July 7th, that had over 120 guests present. Chris invited everyone to sign up for Kids Treadfest 2023 on July 22nd. Chris stated that the After School Program is now open for enrollment at our recreation centers, for children 6-13 years old.

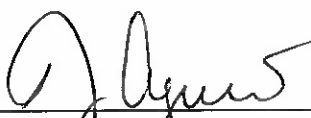
Seniors Report: Bobby Brown gave the Seniors Report. Bobby mentioned the Water Walkers classes have begun for seniors aged 55+, from 9am-10:30am. Bobby discussed the upcoming Annual Talent Show on August 26th at 2pm. Bobby reminded everyone that the Talent Show was being held at the Abilene Community Theatre this year with ticket sales at \$5 each.

Zoo: Jesse Pottebaum gave the Zoo Report. Jesse talked about the new Fossa pups and Secretary Bird chick born recently. Jesse showed pictures of the upcoming winter holding buildings being constructed. Jesse mentioned it is Zoo Keeper Week July 16-22. Jesse invited everyone to come out to Zippity Zoo Day on July 22 to come celebrate the Abilene Zoo's birthday! Jesse stated the upcoming Rock and Roar will feature Pecos & the Rooftops on September 8th.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:01am



David Pittman, Parks Board Chairman



Janina Aguer0, Secretary