

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

August 16, 2023

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 555 Walnut Street, Abilene, TX. Board members present were David Pittman, Gary Grubbs, Leigh Black, Robyn Wertheim, Michael Homer 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, Stanley Smith, Legal and Janina Aguero, Secretary.

David Pittman called the meeting to order at 8:30 am

Invocation: Robyn Wertheim gave the invocation.

Public Comment: None

Acceptance of Minutes from July 18, 2023: Robyn Wertheim moved the minutes to be approved. Gary Grubbs seconded. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Executive Session: The Parks and Recreation Board went into Executive session at 8:32am to discuss Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, Consultation with Attorney, and Section 551.072, Texas Government Code, Deliberations about Real Property.

1. 610 East South 11th
2. Southwest Park
3. Nelson Park

The Parks and Recreation Board came out of Executive Session at 9:03am with no votes or other action taken during the Executive Session.

2023 Zoo Bond: Jesse Pottebaum presented the proposed Zoo bond. Jesse reviewed the proposed Zoo bond that was approved by City Council to be voted upon on November 7th. Jesse showed the board the different views of what will change after Phase 1 and Phase 2 including a breakdown of the cost per phase.

2023 Parks and Recreation Bond: Lesli Andrews discussed the proposed bond to rebuild GV Daniels and Cesar Chavez Recreation centers. Lesli presented the board with the design of the new recreation layout and the costs projected for these projects. Lesli mentioned the Kirby Lake Trail improvements with hiking and biking options available.

Boy Scout Building Lease: Lesli Andrews reviewed the lease agreement proposed with the Texas Trails Council for the Boy Scout building. Lesli discussed the terms of the lease agreement focusing on how the lessee maintains and repairs the facility, pays utilities and will be termed for 5 years with the option to renew for a fee of \$50.

Public Comment: Michelle Lewis, Abilene Citizen, told the board that the use of the building will serve 25 Boy Scouts for now and serve 10-12 troops.

Gary Grubbs made a motion for this agreement with the Texas Trails Council be approved. Leigh Black seconded. With all in favor the motion carried.

Improvements to Kirby Lake Softball Complex: Lesli Andrews presented the board with the improvement requests made by Wylie Fastpitch Softball to replace eight existing dugouts. Lesli stated that the proposed cost will be \$76,400 and will be at no cost to the City funds.

Public Comment: Bryan Nelson, Abilene resident, introduced himself as the president of Wylie Fastpitch Softball. Mr. Nelson stated that they host around 12 tournaments a year with around 400 involved in Spring ball and 500 in the Fall. Mr. Nelson said these improvements would be very beneficial to all.

Robyn Wertheim made a motion to approve the request for the improvements to the Kirby Lake Softball Complex. Michael Homer seconded. With all in favor the motion carried.

Aquatics Report: Bobby Brown gave the aquatics report. Bobby mentioned Adventure Cove is going into the end of the season to be open and will now be moving into weekends only until the last day of the season, which will be on September 4th.

Parks Report: Jesus Coronado gave the parks report. Jesus discussed the repairs made at Vaughn Camp Park to the tennis/pickleball nets that were damaged. Jesus talked about updating the BBQ grills at Scarborough, Johnson and Stevenson Parks. Jesus mentioned the crawl tube replacement for Cobb Playground has come in and been replaced.

Recreation Report: Chris Gibson gave the Recreation Report. Chris reviewed the upcoming Fall Coed Kickball League starting on September 7th through October 26. Chris discussed the upcoming Dog Training Classes for the fall, starting on September 5 through October 10th for puppies and older dogs.

Seniors Report: Bobby Brown gave the Seniors Report. Bobby mentioned the upcoming 8 Ball Tournament the seniors are really looking forward to, happening on August 30th. Bobby talked about the Tuesday evening fitness classes being led by a professional physical therapist, Maddy Shelburne, from 5:30-6:30pm. Bobby invited everyone to get their tickets for the Senior Talent Show, on Saturday August 26th.

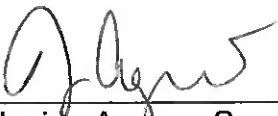
Zoo: Jesse Pottebaum gave the Zoo Report. Jesse talked about the Rock and Roar event happening on September 8th featuring Pecos & the Rooftops. Jesse asked everyone to come out on September 23rd to meet Bluey with earlier access and

breakfast for purchase. Jesse mentioned the upcoming After-Hours for Members only on Tuesday September 26th at 6pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:37am



David Pittman, Parks Board Chairman



Janina Agüero, Secretary