

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING

September 19, 2023

The Parks and Recreation Board held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 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, 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, Ann Hall, Recreation 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: Tanell Blackmon gave the invocation.

Public Comment: None

Acceptance of Minutes from August 16, 2023: Robyn Wertheim moved the minutes to be approved. Leigh Black 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. Property Nelson Park

The Parks and Recreation Board came out of Executive Session at 8:47am with no votes or other action taken during the Executive Session.

6223-PP Nelson Park Plat Request: Adam Holland, Planning and Development, discussed the request to submit the rezoning of Nelson Park to the Planning and Zoning Board. Gary Grubbs moved this request to be sent to the Planning and Zoning Board. Robyn Wertheim seconded, with all in favor the motion carried.

6223-FP Nelson Park Plat Request: Adam Holland, Planning and Development, discussed the request to submit this rezoning of Nelson Park to the Planning and Zoning Board. Gary Grubbs moved this request to be sent to the Planning and Zoning Board. Michael Homer seconded, with all in favor the motion carried.

Z-2023-30 Nelson Park Rezone from AO to PDD-184: Clarissa Ivey, Planning and Development, discussed the request to rezone the Nelson area for Agriculture and General Commercial. Clarissa is requesting this item be submitted to the Planning and Zoning Board. Tony Pallarez moved this request to be sent to the Planning and Zoning Board. Gary Grubbs seconded, with all in favor the motion carried.

Rose Tennis Center Management Agreement Amendment: Lesli Andrews reviewed the amended changes made to the Rose Tennis Center agreement to be in compliance with the laws of current contracts. Michael Homer moved to have these changes be approved. Leigh Black seconded, with all in favor the motion carried.

Rotary Peace Pole in Park: Lesli Andrews discussed the request from the Rotary club to place a peace pole in either Vera Minter Park or Storybook Garden, in remembrance of Kayla Christianson. The board requested to table this item until the Rotary club is able to consult with the Visual Arts Council and let the Parks and Recreation department determine processes for this type of monument.

Aquatics Report: Chris Gibson gave the aquatics report. Chris stated that the splash pads will be closed for the season on October 8th. Chris mentioned that there were a total of 37,749 admissions to Adventure Cove for the season, and will have more updated financial numbers soon.

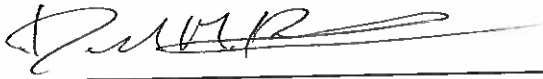
Parks Report: Jesus Coronado gave the parks report. Jesus talked about the repairs made at the Nelson Ballfields, installing a gate valve to help with water issues at Festival Gardens. Jesus discussed the continuing replacement of the barbecue grills at Cobb park, Lake Kirby and Will Hair. Jesus mentioned the replacement of the door at the Boy Scout building being completed as well.

Recreation Report: Ann Hall gave the Recreation Report. Ann presented the upcoming Girls Night Event at Rose Park on October 7th, from 6-8pm. Ann invited everyone to visit the Rose Senior Center on September 21st from 5:30pm-6:30pm for a Community Meeting regarding the tennis/pickleball expansion.

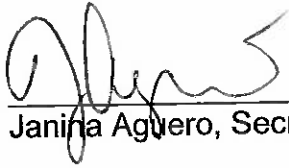
Seniors Report: Bobby Brown gave the Seniors Report. Bobby mentioned the Senior Wellness Expo is coming up on Tuesday, September 26th. Bobby informed the board of the free fitness and balance screenings being held on Friday the 29th from 9-10:30am. Bobby talked about the ceramic classes starting again and offering more options for the afternoon, beginning in October on Fridays from 1-3:30pm.

Zoo: Jesse Pottebaum gave the Zoo Report. Jesse gave animal updates on the two new maned wolves, secretary bird chick and the new fossa pups. Jesse reported that the new winter holding for Albert the Alligator is completed, to be able to see him during the winter months. Jesse informed the board of the new upcoming events including Meet Bluey on Saturday September, 23rd and the Members only After Hours event on Tuesday September 26th. Jesse mentioned the addition of new dates for Boo at the Zoo to include October 14th, 21st, 22nd, 28th and 29th.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:35am



David Pittman, Parks Board Chairman



Janina Agüero, Secretary