

STATE OF TEXAS :
COUNTIES OF POTTER :
AND RANDALL :

On this the 9th day of March 2010, the Parks and Recreation Commission of Amarillo, Texas convened at 1:30 PM in regular session in Room 306, City Hall at 509 E. 7th Avenue, with the following members present:

ATTENDANCE

	PRESENT TODAY	NO. REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. REGULAR MEETINGS ATTENDED SINCE APPOINTMENT	SPECIAL MEETINGS HELD	SPECIAL MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mr. Daniel Martinez	Yes	47	44	0	0
Mr. Hal Leedy	Yes	27	18	0	0
Mr. Cameron Monroe	Yes	17	14	0	0
Mr. Clint Norton	Yes	8	7	0	0
Ms. Joyce Cunningham	Yes	27	25	0	0
Ms. Jackie Payne	No	27	22	0	0
Mr. Brian Scott	Yes	45	37	0	0

and the following staff members:

Mr. Larry Offerdahl	Director of Parks & Recreation
Mr. Rod Tweet	Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation
Mr. Clint Stoddard	Park Superintendent
Ms. Sherylene Morris	Recording Secretary

There being a quorum established, the meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mr. Daniel Martinez, and the following business was conducted.

ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9 MEETING

MR. Brian Scott made a MOTION to approve the February 9th minutes as mailed. Ms. Joyce Cunningham seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 2. MONTHLY REPORTS

Larry Offerdahl stated that AAA Electric was the low bidder out of five (5) bids received for the Rick Klein Lighting Installation Project with a low bid of \$124,901. This lighting project is being funded by the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act from the Department of Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Program. The estimated completion date for this project is May 24, 2010.

The AZS Board of Directors approved the initiation for the AZS membership drive that will start in the next few weeks. Larry invited each Park Commissioner to join AZS as a member.

Due to the inclement weather, Golf & Tennis revenues are still down.

Larry stated that Athletics registered more softball teams for the spring/summer season with a total of 354 teams. He also mentioned that a "Lifetime Recognition Award was given in honor of Yogi Rossi by the USSSA Organization.

Clint Stoddard stated that Park crews converted Forest Hills & East Park's tennis courts into Foot Sol courts. These courts will still be utilized as tennis courts for the recreation tennis camp programs in the summer.

Clint also mentioned that a snowstorm in February closed the zoo for several days.

Rod Tweet stated that the water toys for the Bones Hooks Splashpad have been installed as well as the landscaping around the Splashpad.

ITEM 3. REPORT ON THE UPDATE OF THE 2003 HIKE & BIKE MASTER PLAN

Larry explained that the 2003 City of Amarillo Hike & Bike Master Plan was prepared and approved in December 2003. Since 2004, the Traffic Department has identified and marked bike lanes on designated city streets. An update for this 2003 Hike & Bike Master Plan will be completed by Parks Administration and the Traffic Department in the next few months. The first draft was completed in March and was submitted and reviewed by Park Commissioners. The second draft will be completed and ready for review at the April 2010 Park Commission meeting.

Ken Graham, Traffic Commissioner, stated that the City of Amarillo has become a bike community. He suggested that the existing trail on old Soncy Road from North Amarillo Blvd to Wildcat Bluff needs to be located on the Hike & Bike Trail map. Several groups such as running clubs, walking clubs, and bike clubs utilize the trail daily. Friends of Old Soncy Trail Club hold events to raise money for different organizations.

Kimberly Herbert, Proprietor of the Ground Café, located on the ground floor of the Chase Tower in downtown Amarillo, stated that many people are starting to commute to work downtown. She has also organized the coffee cup crawl.

The Ride of Silence that honors bikers who have been killed on the road, was formed in 2005 and continues to grow every year with as many riders as 175 +.

Pam Cognasi suggested that a map be available to download on the Parks & Recreation website.

ITEM 4. REPORT ON THE ZOO EDUCATION CENTER PROJECT

Larry stated that Parks Administration has been working closely with the Amarillo Zoological Society Board of Director's to help raise funds for the Amarillo Zoo Education Center. He mentioned that the following grants, donations or funds have been pledged for the new building totaling \$183,439:

- Texas Parks & Wildlife matching grant
- Amarillo Zoological Society
- Paul Engler Foundation
- Kimble Foundation
- Allen Durrett Donation
- City of Amarillo

Other grants pending are with the Pepsi Refresh Programs and private foundations.

ITEM 5. REPORT ON THE 2010 PARKS & RECREATION SPECIAL EVENTS

Coco Bates, Parks & Recreation Special Events Coordinator presented a report on special events planned for the 2010 summer. Each year the popularity for these programs continues to grow.

The Parks & Recreation programs by month include:

March – Lego Mania
April – Beach Bum
May – Skyhoundz (Mutfest)
June – Aug - Starlight Theater
June – Cheer Craze
 Roxie Raccoon's Birthday Party
 Science Camp
 Awareness Week
 Fish Derby
 Sammie Seal's 4th Birthday Party
July – Hawaiian Night
 Safety Night
 Mardi Gras Night
August – Pirate & Fiesta Night
September – Punt, Pass, & Kick

Most of these programs are free to the public while Lego & Science Camps charge a fee.

ITEM 6. UPDATE ON THE ELLWOOD SENIOR PARK PROJECT

Construction on the Ellwood Senior Park will be completed in the next two weeks weather permitting. The construction of the performance stage is being funded by a \$15,830 donation from the Baptist Community Services. The Senior Park dedication is scheduled for April 30, 2010. A special recognition will be given to Dusty McGuire for her Keep Amarillo Beautiful contribution that helped to fund this senior park.

ITEM 7. PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION COMMENTS

Brian Scott mentioned that the 6th Annual Tree Care & Safety Workshop will be held on April 20th at the Amarillo College Business & Industry Center.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Brian Scott adjourned the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 3:04 PM.

Larry Offerdahl,
Director of Parks and Recreation