

STATE OF TEXAS :  
COUNTIES OF POTTER :  
AND RANDALL :

On this the 10th day of May 2011, 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:

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**ATTENDANCE**

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	PRESENT TODAY	NO. REGULAR MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. REGULAR MEETINGS ATTENDED SINCE APPOINTMENT	SPECIAL MEETINGS HELD	SPECIAL MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mr. Daniel Martinez	No	58	53	0	0
Mr. Hal Leedy	No	38	25	0	0
Mr. Cameron Monroe	Yes	28	21	0	0
Mr. Clint Norton	Yes	19	16	0	0
Ms. Joyce Cunningham	Yes	38	36	0	0
Ms. Jackie Payne	No	38	30	0	0
Mr. Brian Scott	Yes	56	46	0	0

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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

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

**ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 12, 2011 MEETING**

Ms. Joyce Cunningham made a MOTION to approve the April 12th minutes as amended. Mr. Cameron Monroe seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 4-0.

**ITEM 2. MONTHLY REPORTS**

Larry Offerdahl explained that Parks Administration submitted two (2) grant applications to Community Development to seek funding for the Capital Improvement projects at Hamlet Park. One grant is for adding more security lighting at the park, baseball backstops, drinking fountains, and trash containers. The second one is to install a Splashpad with or without a filtration system.

Larry stated that Parks Administration is currently working with the Amarillo Senior Citizens Association on an employment program that employees senior citizens to provide a service in our parks system. Currently this program employees three (3) persons who perform parks maintenance duties in our city parks. A fourth person has been approved to work at the Amarillo Tennis Center and help coordinate activities at the Ellwood Senior Park.

Golf revenues are up 10.5 to 11% from last year's revenues due to the better weather conditions.

Clint Stoddard stated that 52 trees were planted at City View Park and 30 trees were planted at Hillside Park for the Arbor Day Celebration. Maintenance crews are continuing fabricate new park rules and park signs to be installed at the entrance to McDonald Lake, City View, and Hillside Parks.

Park crews are currently working on getting the pools and splashpads ready for the summer months.

Revenue at the zoo for the month of April was \$30,681.40 with the year to date total being \$97,713.43 vs. \$72,219.72 for last year's totals at this time.

### **ITEM 3. REPORT ON THE 2011 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM**

Pam Cognasi, Recreation Supervisor, distributed the new Park Guide and Summer in the City to the Park Commissioners. She informed the Park Board that the pools would be open for the summer on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM and the splashpads would be open on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. The Recreation programs with the free summer lunch programs opens on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 17 different park sites Monday through Friday and are open from 10:00 or 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The Jammin Jym programs open on June 6<sup>th</sup> at Avondale, Hamlet, and Humphrey's Highland Gyms from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM Monday through Friday. These programs are not considered a day care. Other summer programs include: Tennis Camp, Basketball Camp, Baseball Camp, and Volleyball Camp. A variety of Summer Park Events include Artrageous, Beach Bum, Skyhoundz, Roxie's Birthday Party (Recreation), Flight Frenzy, Fish Derby, Sammy's Birthday Bash (Aquatics), Hawaiian Day Beach Prince & Princess Pageant, Safety Day, Fiesta Night, Pirate Night, Mardi Gras, Starlight Theater, & Punt Pass & Kick.

### **ITEM 4. REPORT ON THE USTA GRANT AND 2011 TENNIS PROGRAM**

Ona Lee Johnson, Amarillo Tennis Center, stated that USTA has started a teaching program in America called "10 & Under Tennis with four components that include a shorter & lighter tennis racket for the kids, the tennis balls bounce at kids level, the nets are lower, & the courts are smaller. The Amarillo Area Tennis Association was asked to apply for a \$100,000.00 grant that is a three-way partnership with USTA National, USTA Texas Section, and the Amarillo Area Tennis Association. Amarillo and Corpus Christi are the two cities from Texas chosen as targeted marketing areas in the United States along with 20 other cities nationwide.

### **ITEM 5 UPDATE ON THE PARKS PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT PROGRAM**

Clint Stoddard stated that currently in the City of Amarillo we maintain over 70 playgrounds with 23 of these playgrounds located at AISD campuses, 5 are on CISD campuses, and 1 is on River Road campus. In 1995, the state of Texas passed a law that states "No public funds that can be spent to upgrade change or create a new playground, unless they met the criteria of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the consumer's products Safety Commission Standards". The City of Amarillo chose to adopt a playground renovation plan in late 2002-2003. To date, 34 playgrounds have been changed out to be in compliance with CPSC & ADA standards. These playgrounds include: Eastridge, El Alamo, Forest Hills, Martin Road, San Jacinto, Avondale, Belmar, Medical Center, Paramount, Woodlands, City View, Gene Howe School, Lawndale, Memorial, Oakdale, Rick Klein Park, Tradewinds, Arden, Greenways, John Stiff Memorial, Puckett, Ridgecrest, Hillside, Western Plateau, Westover Village, Bones Hooks, Thompson area 30 & 36, River Road, & Rick Klein Sports Complex.

### **ITEM 6. UPDATE ON THE 2011 ZOO SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**

Mike Boley, Zoo Visitor Services Coordinator, stated that the Amarillo Zoo received a TP&W Outreach Grant for \$15,968 to help fund the new zoo school education program. He also informed the Park Commissioners on upcoming events to be held at the zoo. Some of these include Conservation Celebration Bringing Back the Wild, Amarillo Zoo's Safety Safari, Animal Enrichment Day, Boo at the Zoo. Zoo camps are also offered at the zoo that includes: If Drew the Zoo, Roars & Snores, Senior Strolls, Camp Zoofari, & Zoo Tot Camps.

### **ITEM 7. PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Cameron Monroe stated that the United Way video made National recognition. A WT endowed scholarship has been made in honor of Mayor Debra McCartt.

Joyce Cunningham announced that the "Ride of Silence" will be held May 18<sup>th</sup> at Amarillo College starting at 6:30 PM.

Brian Scott stated that Tree City USA was celebrating 15 years. He also stated that the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Tree Care & Safety Workshop held on April 26<sup>th</sup> was a success and thanked Parks Department for all their help.

There being no further discussion, Mr. Cameron Monroe made at MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Joyce Cunningham seconded the MOTION. Meeting adjourned at 2:46PM.

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Larry Offerdahl,  
Director of Parks and Recreation