

STATE OF TEXAS :  
COUNTIES OF POTTER :  
AND RANDALL :

On this the 13th day of November 2012, 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	TERM STARTED	TERM EXPIRES
Mr. Hal Leedy	Yes	54	35	07/24/07	07/01/13
Mr. Cameron Monroe	Yes	44	34	08/12/08	07/01/14
Mr. Clint Norton	No	35	28	06/16/09	07/01/15
Ms. Joyce Cunningham	Yes	54	52	07/24/07	07/01/13
Ms. Jackie Payne	Yes	54	43	07/24/07	07/01/15
Mr. Mike Rivera	No	13	10	09/13/11	07/01/14
Ms. Renee McCown	No	13	10	09/13/11	07/01/14

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and the following staff members:

Mr. Rod Tweet	Director of Parks & Recreation
Mr. Clint Stoddard	Park Superintendent
Mr. Kim Killian	Athletic Supervisor
Ms. Pam Cognasi	Recreation Supervisor
Ms. Sherylene Morris	Recording Secretary

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

**ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 9, 2012 MEETING**

Ms. Joyce Cunningham made a MOTION to approve the October 9, 2012 minutes as amended. Ms. Jackie Payne seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 4-0.

**ITEM 2. MONTHLY REPORTS**

Rod Tweet stated that the Amarillo City Commission passed a resolution approving the revisions and updates for the 2012 Park Master Plan on October 23, 2012. This plan is an update of the original plan that was adopted in 1997 and updated in 2004 and 2008. This newly revised Park Master Plan will be sent to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for their review and approval.

Rod also stated that the annual Parks and Recreation Department Awards Banquet will be held on December 12, 2012 from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM in the Heritage Room at the Amarillo Civic Center. Invitations will be sent out a couple of weeks prior to the event. This event will replace the regularly scheduled meeting for the month of December.

The bid opening for the site improvements for the Amarillo Athletic Complex has been scheduled for November 15, 2012. This project will construct four multi-use fields and additional parking space with restrooms just south of the Rick Klein Baseball fields. This project is expected to be completed by August 2013.

Clint Stoddard stated that Park Maintenance crews completed the Tennis Center drainage project that will prevent any major flooding inside the tennis center due to heavy rains. Park crews have removed a total of 156 trees at Ross Rogers Golf Complex and have started the stump grinding process this week. Park crews have also completed construction and other miscellaneous items at the bison, donkey and tortoise exhibits. Crews are also continuing the removal of graffiti at all park facilities and publically owned properties. Clint stated that Park crews have also begun renovations of the volleyball courts at Ellwood Park by turning four of the regular volleyball courts on the west side into sand volleyball courts. Crews also detailed JSM McDonald Lake for the Pirates of the Canyon balloon

festival event.

Clint updated the Park Commissioners on the progress of the new Zoo Education Center Building. He stated that the contractor has finished sanding and staining the floor and once that is cured a sealant will be applied. Other general miscellaneous items are scheduled to be completed within the next few days. Once these items are completed and approved, the contractor will be released.

The Boo at the Zoo event was held October 26 – 28, 2012 at the Amarillo Zoo with total revenue of \$18,320. Approximately 4,000 people were in attendance for the three days. Total revenue for the month of October 2012 was \$25,701.62 as compared to last year's revenue in October at \$25,696.73.

Cameron Monroe asked about the new proposed zoo entrance for the Amarillo Zoo that was to face Wonderland Park and the gondola ride connecting the two facilities. Clint stated that this project has been placed on hold until the new Zoo Master Plan has been completed.

Kim Killian stated that the 2012 season for eight different sports groups playing on Parks and Recreation fields has come to an end for the year. These include West Texas Youth Baseball, Kids Inc., Amarillo Soccer Association, High Plains Fast Pitch, Adult Hispanic Soccer, Amarillo Bronco Baseball League, Adult Flag Football and the World Kickball Association. The Winter Volleyball season began on October 19, 2012 with a total of 221 women's and mixed teams registered. These league games are scheduled to be played at the Courts of Amarillo. The Winter Basketball season also began on October 19<sup>th</sup> with a total of 18 men and women's teams registered. These league games will be played in the AISD gyms.

Kim also stated that he is still looking for scoreboard sponsorships at the Rick Klein Baseball Complex. Four new scoreboards will be ordered to replace two outdated scoreboards and two damaged scoreboards at Southeast Ball Fields.

### **ITEM 3. DEPARTMENT YEAR END REVIEW**

Pam Cognasi, Recreation Supervisor, stated that Marketing for Parks and Recreation consists of Parks website, live remotes, radio ads, booths, blogs, talk shows at TV stations and partnering with local radio stations in order to advertise the Parks and Recreation programs. Other means of advertising is the Park Guide, Summer in the City and the Marketing Plan. The goals for 2013 are to improve reports on the website, combine Park Guide and Summer in the City into one source of information and get the public to access the website for flyer and poster information on all Parks and Recreation programs in order to cut costs of printing and distribution.

Tennis Center revenues and permit sales have increased due to fee increases this year. The three indoor courts have been resurfaced and painted and will become an annual project in order to keep the courts updated and clean. A part-time maintenance person has been added to help to keep the courts repaired and clean. Goals for 2013 are to review fees, improve customer service, utilize the website, improve the point of sale to a better system, prepare a master tennis schedule through the city and strengthen our partnerships.

Wendy Baca, Recreation Coordinator, stated that there are seventeen park sites for the recreation summer program starting at 10:00 or 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday, June through August. There are a total of eight Splash Pads included at eight of the park sites which has increased attendance in these programs. Jammin' Gyms are offered at three AISD gyms each evening that are open from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM Monday through Friday. At each park and gym for about an hour each day there is a Sports Specialist and an Arts and Crafts Specialist that hold a special sports event or arts and crafts activity that the children can take home. She also stated that at Hamlet Gym, Parks partnered with APD, Potter County and the Amarillo Fire Departments to provide educational programs on safety and to interact with the kids. The summer lunch program is offered through a grant and is at all seventeen recreation park sites. A new partnership with Snack Pack for Kids was able to provide snacks for the three night gyms and any leftover snack packs were provided at the park sites. Free camps are also provided in the parks that include Baseball, Basketball, Tennis, Volleyball, Football and Soccer. Goals for 2013 for the park programs are to improve the programs at Hamlet Gym, get the community more involved, add more camps, adopt a park, provide more safe play teen programs to give back to the community and to have more team building programs that involve the Army, Navy and Marines to help teach, educate and have fun with the kids.

Rene'e Stovall, past Special Events Coordinator, has provided new and improved special events throughout the Recreation Programs. Some of the programs include: Sammy's Birthday at all three pools, Safety Night at Southeast Pool, Hawaiian Pageant and Talent Show at Southwest to include boys and girls and Pirate Night at Thompson Pool. The Special Events at the parks included: Skyhoundz at Memorial Park, Starlight Theater at Sam Houston Park, Roxie's Birthday Party and

Spring/Summer Science Camp at Memorial Park, Senior Social at Ellwood Park, Pirates of the Canyon at JSM McDonald Lake Park, Punt Pass and Kick at Dick Bivins Stadium and Fish Derby at McDonald Lake with over 900 people attending. Goals for 2013 are to continue to offer new classes for kids and families at an affordable cost, increase attendance at each event and event awareness, increase media coverage and participation in supporting the Parks programs and offer more musical talent and food vendors at Starlight Theater.

Aquatic's is currently looking to hire a new Aquatics Specialist. Pam stated that this year was the first year to take over the concessions at the pools which proved to be a challenge but with this year's experience improvements will be made. This was a good year for swimming lessons as attendance was increased. There was also a demand for private swim lessons. The Helping Hands Wall, Safety Day and booth fees also helped to increase the swim lessons scholarship fund. The Jr. Guard classes were maximized this year. Goals for 2013 are to increase staffing for the pools and concessions, offer new public classes through Jeff Ellis and Associates, increase night security at the pools and get more staff training.

**ITEM 4. FUTURE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING TIME**

Due to the inability to come to an agreement on the meeting time due to conflicts, it was decided to keep the current meeting time as is and offer a new date and time in the future.

**ITEM 5. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no comments from the public.

**ITEM 6. PARK COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Hal Leedy stated that this would be his last meeting as he is moving to New Braunfels TX in February 2013.

**ITEM 7. ANNOUNCEMENT – NEXT MEETING DATE**

It was announced that there would be no official meeting for the month of December; however there will be an annual Parks & Recreation Awards Banquet to be held on December 12, 2012 and all Park Commissioners are invited to attend. Next official meeting date is scheduled for January 8, 2013.

**ITEM 8. ADJOURN**

There being no further discussion, Ms. Jackie Payne made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Joyce Cunningham seconded the MOTION. Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM.

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Rod Tweet,  
Director of Parks and Recreation