

STATE OF TEXAS :

COUNTIES OF POTTER :

AND RANDALL :

On this the 14th day of May 2013, 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	TERM STARTED	TERM EXPIRES
Mr. Cameron Monroe	No	48	37	08/12/08	07/01/14
Ms. Joyce Cunningham	Yes	58	56	07/24/07	07/01/13
Ms. Jackie Payne	Yes	58	46	07/24/07	07/01/15
Mr. Mike Rivera	No	17	12	09/13/11	07/01/14
Ms. Renee McCown	Yes	17	13	09/13/11	07/01/14
Mr. David Hudson	Yes	4	4	01/02/13	07/01/16
Mr. Rob Chafin	Yes	4	2	01/02/13	07/01/15

and the following staff members:

Mr. Rod Tweet	Director of Parks & Recreation
Mr. Robert Vogt	District Park Supervisor
Mr. Kim Killian	Athletic Supervisor
Ms. Pam Cognasi	Recreation Supervisor
Mr. Bryan Shelhamer	Project Development Manager
Ms. Sherylene Morris	Recording Secretary

There being a quorum established, the meeting was called to order by Co-Chairman, Ms. Jackie Payne, and the following business was conducted.

ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 9, 2013 MEETING

Ms. Joyce Cunningham made a MOTION to approve the April 9, 2013 minutes as amended. Ms. Renee McCown seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 2. MONTHLY REPORTS

Rod Tweet stated that invitations have been mailed for the ribbon cutting at the Bill and Alice O'Brien Education Center at the Amarillo Zoo. This event will be held on Thursday, May 23rd at 10:00 AM. Rod encouraged Park Commissioners to attend. Rod stated that work continues on the Amarillo Athletic Complex Master Plan to gather input from stakeholders and city administration. There will be additional meetings held and the final product should be finalized by early July. The 2013-2014 budget process for the Parks & Recreation Department has been submitted. Budget review meetings between departments and city administration will take place June 17th –28th. The Dedication and Grand Opening for the newly renovated Mustang Golf Course at Ross Rogers was held on April 24th and 25th. Many positive compliments were received by the public. Rod complimented on the tremendous job that the staff did in order to make this such a wonderful success.

Robert Vogt, District Supervisor on behalf of Clint Stoddard, stated that a total of 370 new or replacement trees have been planted this year. Park staff has also been landscaping at the zoo around the Zoo Education Center with xeriscape plants and drip irrigation. Maintenance staff has also been making improvements to the mini park at 6th and Taylor that includes putting in a new sidewalk, fence and xeriscape plants. Robert also stated that 20 new regulation horseshoe courts are being built at Southeast Park, ten of which originally came from Ellwood Park. Ten of these horseshoe courts will be completed and ready for play by the end of this week. Other amenities to be added to this park will include a new green vinyl fence, a shelter and picnic tables. A large group of people from AIG came out to the zoo to help with various projects to fulfill a community service project.

Kim Killian, Athletic Supervisor, stated that an adult softball tournament was scheduled on April 27th at Southeast Complex with approximately 31 teams participating in three divisions with total revenue of \$6,820. A total of 223 teams were registered for the summer Volleyball season with total revenue of \$28,990. West Texas Youth Baseball has had three tournaments in the last four weekends with an out-of-town participation increase of 45%. ASA Soccer registered 103 teams for this season. Kids Inc. has started their sports for the summer that includes t-ball, coach pitch, soccer, flag football and volleyball. Athletics is still looking for extra sponsorship for the Mayor's Half Marathon as well as scoreboard sponsorship at the Thompson Park Fast Pitch fields.

Pam Cognasi, Recreation Supervisor, stated that the Park Guides and Summer in the City publications have been delivered to all area schools, day cares and businesses. Pam explained that the SPARK Program (Supporting Parks and Recreation Kids) is a backpack program that provides school supplies for the Summer Recreation Program for kids who display good behavior and attend the recreation programs all summer long. The annual Fish Derby is scheduled for June 22nd at McDonald Lake. This is one of the biggest Recreation events held each year with approximately 1,000 participants registered. The first event of the summer season is Skyhoundz to be held May 19th at Memorial Park. The Snack Pak 4 Kids Program will be utilized again this year which involves distributing 3,500 paks to the Summer Recreation Program participants on Fridays all summer long. The Amarillo National Tennis Center is getting quotes for new wind screens for the north two courts and also waiting on new nets for the remaining existing courts to come in. The Helping Hands Wall is a program to help raise money for scholarships for swim lessons. Those who want to participate can put their handprint on a wall and donate money that goes into a scholarship fund to help those who are unable to pay for swim lessons. This program is only held at Thompson Pool.

ITEM 3. OVERVIEW OF THE SUMMER AQUATIC PROGRAM

Pam introduced Shelley Gallagher as the Aquatics Specialist. Shelley stated that the pools are getting ready for the summer season with the pools opening on May 25th. Lifeguard training classes have begun and will continue until the pools open. Pam explained that Shelley and her assistant are Jeff Ellis & Associates instructors. She also explained that Ellis & Associates will conduct two audits during the summer by showing up at the pools unannounced and will videotape the lifeguards on the stands to make sure they are scanning their zones and fulfilling all of the responsibilities they are supposed to be doing during their rotation. Once they identify themselves they will go to each of the pools and staff is then rated on their skills with backboards or active rescues. The Aquatic staff recently achieved a Gold International Aquatic Safety Award for the 2012 season.

ITEM 4. UPDATE ON WESTOVER VILLAGE SPLASH PAD PROJECT

Bryan Shelhamer, Project Development Manager, explained how Parks & Recreation prepares the groundwork before the splash pad is installed. Park staff will provide the water supply, sewer line and then the company will put in the concrete pad. A kraft-coat substance is put on the pad with a little bit of a grip to keep the kids from slipping on the concrete. This substance has to cure for about a week before the amenities are put on. A shade structure with tables will be installed for anyone to get out of the elements to watch the kids play. This is the ninth splash pad that has been installed. An application for a CDBG grant to request a splash pad at Eastridge Park is in the works. There will be two public presentations and then the board will decide to make a recommendation to the City Commission for the final endorsements. All splash pads will be open for the summer season on May 25th through Labor Day. Renee McCown expressed the need for a splash pad to be installed at Eastridge Park.

ITEM 5. MUSTANG COURSE DEDICATION AND GRAND OPENING

Sherylene Morris, Administrative Technician, presented a music video of the Dedication and Grand Opening at the Ross Rogers Mustang Golf Course. This video showed highlights of the event and various photos of the newly renovated golf course.

ITEM 6. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 7. PARK COMMISSION COMMENTS

David Hudson asked if there have been any public complaints about the golf course but Rod stated that he has heard only positive things. Jackie Payne complimented Park Staff for all their hard work. Renee McCowen commented that she attended a Latino Democratic Forum that voiced concerns

about their area. She stated that citizens on the north side of Amarillo do not realize how much the city does for them. Jackie Payne recognized the Recreation program in the parks with the free lunches for the kids.

ITEM 8. ANNOUNCEMENT – NEXT MEETING DATE

June 11, 2013

ITEM 8. ADJOURN

Joyce Cunningham made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Renee McCown seconded the MOTION. Meeting adjourned at 2:36 PM.

Rod Tweet,
Director of Parks and Recreation