

STATE OF TEXAS :
COUNTIES OF POTTER :
AND RANDALL :

On this the 9th day of July 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 | Yes | 50 | 39 | 08/12/08 | 07/01/14 |
| Ms. Jackie Payne | Yes | 60 | 48 | 07/24/07 | 07/01/15 |
| Mr. Mike Rivera | Yes | 19 | 13 | 09/13/11 | 07/01/14 |
| Ms. Renee McCown | Yes | 19 | 14 | 09/13/11 | 07/01/14 |
| Mr. David Hudson | Yes | 6 | 6 | 01/02/13 | 07/01/16 |
| Mr. Rob Chafin | Yes | 6 | 4 | 01/02/13 | 07/01/15 |

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. Wendy Baca | Recreation Specialist |
| Mr. Bryan Shelhamer | Project Development Manager |
| Ms. Sherylene Morris | Recording Secretary |

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 JUNE 11, 2013 MEETING

Mr. Mike Rivera made a MOTION to approve the June 11, 2013 minutes as amended. Ms. Jackie Payne seconded the MOTION. MOTION passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 2. MONTHLY REPORTS

Rod Tweet stated that the agreement between the City of Amarillo Zoo and the Junior League of Amarillo is to provide a minimum of 15 Junior League volunteers for up to 1,000 volunteer hours in 2014. These volunteers would help assist in our critter encounter station education programs. The Junior League also provides \$4,500 in financial support that helps to fund kennels, tanks, handling equipment, cages, animals, animal care materials and marketing that support the critter encounter counter, the parrot tree, the goat encounter area, Zoofari carts and the discovery stations throughout the zoo.

Bids are due for two new play structures for Ellwood Park and Willow Vista School Parks to help complete our Capital Improvement Projects for the year. These projects should be completed by mid-September of this year.

Several members of the Central Church of Christ will volunteer their assistance at four separate park locations to assist park staff with various tasks such as painting restrooms, spreading wood chips in the playgrounds and trash pickup. The four parks are Thompson, Eastridge, Paramount and John Stiff Parks.

David Hudson asked if the Mayor's office sent out thank you letters to volunteer's? Rod responded by saying that Mike Boley at the zoo sends out thank you's for anyone volunteering at the zoo. Cameron Monroe stated that we need to recognized these volunteers in our quorum and give them a certificate for their time and effort in volunteering. Rod said that he would visit with the Mayor on this. Rob Chafin asked if we used anyone doing community services for a criminal act. Rod stated that Park

Maintenance used the community service citizens on probation to help in the parks. Wendy Baca, Recreation Specialist, also stated that she used Juveniles that are on probation to help with her programs. Cameron also stated that citizens would not volunteer if we didn't take care of our parks.

Total rounds of golf are up for both golf courses with Comanche's down slightly due to the opening of the Mustang Golf Course. David Hudson asked if there might be a decrease in rounds when the Amarillo Country Club opens back up. Rod stated that there could be a slight decrease in rounds.

Pam Cognasi, Recreation Supervisor, stated that even though the pools are already open and running, the Aquatics staff is still hiring lifeguards. The new Aquatics Supervisor is already looking to next year with software programs to do online scheduling for the lifeguards.

Junior Camps for Tennis started on June 10th. The tennis website page has been updated.

The annual Fish Derby was held on June 22nd. Starlight Theater has been doing well each week. The Celebrate America night held on July 2nd had 912 people attend. Pirate Night at Southwest Pool held a record night with over 280 people attending.

The Parks website has added a new photo gallery that you can view photos of our recent events.

Softball registered a total of 285 teams for the 2013 fall season. The season will begin July 22nd. Summer Volleyball continues to play at Memorial, Thompson and Ellwood Parks. Playoffs are scheduled to begin on July 15th weather permitting. West Texas Youth Baseball continues their games this summer at the Rick Klein Complex. High Plains Fast Pitch State Tournament will be held July 20th at Southwest Complex. ASA Soccer hosted the Skip Ferrell 3 v 3 Soccer tournament on June 22nd at John Stiff Park with 114 teams participating. Kids Inc's fall season will begin in mid September. YMCA will host their annual Mid Summer Smash Youth Baseball tournament from 07/13 to 07/21/13 at the Rick Klein Complex. WAKA (kickball), continues to play on Thursday nights at El Alamo Park. Amarillo Flag Football and Panhandle Flag Football began their summer season on June 15th at Martin Road Park and Ellwood Park. The Hispanic Soccer Association continues to play at Southeast Park and Martin Road Park. Amarillo Adult Baseball began their season on June 9th at Hines Memorial Park.

Cameron Monroe asked about the estimated total revenue that Parks and Recreation brings into the City of Amarillo based on motel occupancy and tournaments to impact the economy. Rod stated that we have visited with the CVC on working together to come up with a formula to determine the economic impact these tournaments have on the city's revenue. David Hudson suggested visiting with the Chamber of Commerce also.

Clint Stoddard stated that as of this date 376 new trees have been planted and 383 trees have been removed. Maintenance staff has continued to remove graffiti at JSM, San Jacinto and Thompson Parks. Staff also removed graffiti on the Barfield Building. Staff has completed the renovations of the volleyball courts at Ellwood Park. The seeding project at McDonald Lake has been completed. At the zoo, six outreach programs and three on-site school programs have been conducted that reached a total of 400 participants. Five special events were held in the month of June that included Incredible Edible Insects, Zoo Night Hike, Father and Floats and Going Buggy Family Day. Total revenue for the month of June was \$41,175.68. Our year to date total is \$191,249.37 with last year's total revenue at \$180,542.69.

Rod asked Clint to give an update on Belmar Park. This park lost all of its cool season grasses in 2011 due to the drought. Last year the park was over-seed at the school park on the south end of the park. This year the north end of the park was re-seeded with Bermuda grass.

Cameron Monroe also mentioned that Mike Boley was bringing an unusual animal to the Channel 7 morning show. Clint stated the he might be bringing in the newest member from the Zoo Education Center that would be a giant Tarantula.

ITEM 3. UPDATE ON THE AMARILLO ATHLETIC COMPLEX PHASE II PROJECT

Bryan Shelhamer, Park Development Manager, provided updated photos on the Amarillo Athletic Complex Phase II Project. This project is near completion with the finishing up of the parking lot, landscaping, irrigation and curbing. This project is being constructed by LA Fuller & Sons. Total cost for this project is \$1,021,140.

ITEM 4. OVERVIEW OF CITY VIEW SCHOOL PARK LIGHTING AND RESTROOM PROJECT

Bryan Shelhamer provided an overview layout for the City View School Park Lighting and Restroom

Project. This project consists of walking trails and playground lighting along with a pre-fabricated concrete restroom. This project is similar to the Hamlet Park walking trail lighting. This project is scheduled to start construction in mid September.

ITEM 5. SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Wendy Baca, Recreation Specialist, provided information on the 2013 Recreation Programs and Events. The Recreation Programs in the parks not only provide activities for the kids but lunch is provided through a grant from the CDBG. She stated that this year kids from Team Leadership wanted to give back to the community by going to food businesses to see if they would sponsor a park. Chop Chop brings food in the afternoon to the kids at the Avondale Park for free. Other sponsors that provide food in the afternoon at the parks are Ruby Tequila at El Alamo and Forest Hills Parks, McDonalds at Glenwood Park and Xcel Energy employees sponsor all other parks that are not sponsored. This service provides an extra free lunch to kids less fortunate who may only get one meal a day. A church group will sponsor all 17 sites and cook for a week in July. Parks & Recreation has partnered with Snack Pak 4 Kids that provides snack packs three days a week for the park and Jamin' Gyms participants. The annual Fish Derby was held at McDonald Lake with over 450 participants. Tennis Camps offer free tennis lessons to different age groups. Other camps provided include football, basketball, baseball, soccer and volleyball. The Recreation Programs provide a free public service for kids and continues to grow and expand every year.

ITEM 6. PUBLIC FORUM

Ken Graham, 3007 Harmony, President of Share the Road, commented that his group provides two events each year called the Ride of Silence and a 5k run. He is also a member of the Lone Star Runners Club. He asked if they would need a permit in order to hold a run at a park. Rod stated that if they needed a shelter or gazebo for the start and finish of the race then they would need to reserve that area and get a permit. He also stated that in some cases they would not need a permit from the Parks Department but they may be required to get a parade permit from the Traffic Department. Rod also stated that Parks have dealt with the Lone Star Runners Club in the past and requires that they stay in communication with us when sponsoring a run as it relates to their desired routes. This communication helps keep runners safe and allows us the opportunity to notify the Runner's Club if there are any other activities being held in the park at the same time.

ITEM 7. PARK COMMISSION COMMENTS

No comments from the Park Commission.

ITEM 8. ANNOUNCEMENT – NEXT MEETING DATE

August 13, 2013

ITEM 8. ADJOURN

Ms. Jackie Payne made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Renee McCown seconded the MOTION. The Meeting adjourned at 2:34 PM.

Rod Tweet,
Director of Parks and Recreation