

MINUTES

On April 14, 2021, the Parks and Recreation Board met via video conference at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall at 601 S Buchanan Street, Room 201 for a Regular Meeting.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mr. John Ingerson	Yes	39	33
Mr. Bob Altman	Yes	22	20
Ms. Terry Price	Yes	39	33
Mr. Luke Austin	Yes	31	22
Ms. Tiffany Podzemny	Yes	14	14
Ms. Elaine Hays	Yes	4	3
Mr. Eric Hunter	Yes	4	4
Mr. Jonathan Grammer	Yes	4	2
Mr. Jeff Brain	Yes	4	4

Attendees:

MICHAEL KASHUBA	DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DAVID WILSON	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
KELSEY SARGENT	RECREATION COORDINATOR
BRYAN McWILLIAMS	CITY ATTORNEY
SHERYLENE MORRIS	RECORDING SECRETARY

ITEM 1: Public Comments. No Public comments.

ITEM 2: Call to Order and Approval of Minutes from regular Meeting held March 10, 2021. Chairman, Mr. John Ingerson, established a quorum and called the regular scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board to order at 1:30 p.m. Motion was made by Mr. Jeff Brain, seconded by Mr. Eric Hunter, and unanimously carried to approve the regular minutes as written.

ITEM 3: The Parks and Recreation Board will Discuss or Receive Reports on the Following Current Matters or Projects.

A. Thompson Park Pool. The Director briefly updated the Board on the progress of the Thompson Park Pool Project to include:

- All metal framing up for the concession and ticket booth area.
- Working on the block for the concession building.
- Put masonry on the pump house and putting the joist and the roof on.
- The leisure pool has backfilled completely all the way up and waiting on the pool contractor to start tiling the pool on Monday.
- The slide company will be on site to start mobilizing and putting up the columns and supporting features for the slide.
- They have almost finished all the plumbing for the lazy river with city crews finishing the sewer tap for the site.
- Will start next week with pool coping that is a cap going around the pool.
- Contactor will follow with the concrete work.
- Landscape crews will start landscaping.
- Adding restroom facilities

The Director also stated that the public artwork to be displayed, will be in the lazy river and will be a potted sunflower sculpture that will go in as a part of the inaugural piece. Question was asked on timeline to make Memorial weekend deadline and if there will be a rescheduling for a media day.

B. Budget Discussion. The Director stated that staff is focusing on the CIP plan. Staff has submitted a large number of projects for consideration as a part of our capital planning and are currently in the middle of our process for our normal budget. Finance will be adding some of the cost of doing business increases such as electricity costs, water costs, and fleet costs to the regular budget. Staff is wanting to request some maintenance items in our operational budget as a supplemental request to include:

- HVAC at Warford.
- Replacing benches.
- Other smaller items needed will come as a request from the Asset Management Plan.

Staff is looking to create a new business unit as the Athletic Maintenance Division. On the Park Maintenance side, a request will be for a new mow trim crew as a supplemental request. Budget deadline is due by April 23rd. Options for other funding sources to help with much needed items would be to look at partnerships. Ms. Tiffany Podzemny questioned the supplemental mow crew as bidding out part of it and the rest be kept in house. The Director explained that the landscape bid will focus on neighborhood parks, linear parks, public buildings, traffic islands, and other properties so this will free up our crew to focus on regional and community parks. Park Maintenance staff will not be reduced and funding for the mowing contractors will be from salary savings from positions frozen from last year that have not been refilled. Concerning the school parks, staff is waiting on recommendations from the Park Master Plan consultant to decide on AISD and city boundaries.

C. Parks Master Plan. The Director stated that the bicycle safety staff liaison has made a recommendation for the Hike & Bike Master Plan to be sent to our consultant to be finalized. The Beautification and Public Art Board had a subcommittee meeting and reviewed their portion of the Master Plan to move forward. Public engagement will be in May, with a presentation to the Park Board in June or July for recommendation and then presented to the Council in July or August for adoption. Mr. John Ingerson informed the Board on the importance of the public questionnaire to voice their concerns as to what the community is wanting from Parks and Recreation for improvements and encouraged participation in these discussions through email or informing staff.

D. Special Event Update. David Wilson, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, reported on the Eastereggscitement Event held at the Amarillo Zoo. There were 2,400 participants which brought in \$12,200, and an additional \$2,400 in sponsorships and vendor fees. Chick-fil-A, Sonic, the library and three other organizations joined the event. Cost for this event was only \$560. Challenges for these events have been with Park staff having to clean up after these events which Councilmember Hays stated is a problem throughout the city. Suggestions were made to put up signage in the parks that encourages citizens to clean up after themselves.

Kelsey Sargent, Recreation Coordinator, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the overview of Special Events, the research from past events, and up coming events. The Amarillo Egg Dash which was held April 2nd at John Stiff Park, had a total of 450 participants and was free to the public. Upcoming events include:

- Starlight Theater
- Starlight Cinema
- Summer Free for All
- Fitness Block Parties
- Yard Game Olympics
- Dog Days/Skyhoundz Competition
- Oktoberfest
- Bomb City Pumpkin Hustle
- Tree & Turf Safety Conference
- Light Bike Parade


These events are planned with community awareness in mind and to look for sponsorship opportunities to help put on these events. Other event opportunities would be to highlight diversity and great cultures that we have in our community. Councilmember Hays stated that Parks staff need to reach out to the Chamber of Commerce so that these events are passed on to the Convention and Visitors Bureau to promote and market our local community to visitor who might be travelling through our city.

E. Upcoming Events. These events were listed in Item 3 (D). Sub-Committee Meetings

F. Future Agenda Items. No future agenda items were requested.

ITEM : Adjournment. There, being no further business, Motion was made by Mr. Luke Austin, seconded by Ms. Tiffany Podzemny to adjourn the meeting at 3:14 p.m. This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the City Parks and Recreation Department.


John Ingerson, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sherylene Morris, Board Secretary