

**MINUTES**

On May 12, 2021, the Parks and Recreation Board met at 1:30 p.m. in the gym at the Warford Activity Center, 1330 N.W. 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Amarillo, 79107 for a Regular Meeting.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mr. John Ingerson	Yes	40	34
Mr. Bob Altman	Yes	23	21
Ms. Terry Price	Yes	40	34
Mr. Luke Austin	No	32	22
Ms. Tiffany Podzemny	Yes	15	15
Mr. Eric Hunter	Yes	5	5
Mr. Jonathan Grammer	No	5	2
Mr. Jeff Brain	Yes	5	5

**Attendees:**

MICHAEL KASHUBA	DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DAVID WILSON	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
COURTNEY WHITE	ATTORNEY I
SHERYLENE MORRIS	RECORDING SECRETARY

**ITEM 1:** Public Comments. No Public comments.

**ITEM 2:** Call to Order and Approval of Minutes from regular Meeting held April 14, 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. Bob Altman, seconded by Mr. Jeff Brain, 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 stated that due to the weather, the contractor has added more working days to the contract and the new finish date is set for June 17<sup>th</sup>. A tentative soft opening will be held on June 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> to work on admissions and concessions with the plan to open with a ribbon cutting on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Other challenges include: shortage of construction items to include steel framing, spray foam, and waiting on the arrival of the inner tubes.

**B. Parks Master Plan.** The Director stated that the Consultants and the Sub-Committees members want to do public engagement quickly but are concerned that the people might not understand the concept of what we are asking of them. They agreed to get with city public communications and do the following:

1. Education Campaign
  - Asset Management Plan
2. Engage the Public
3. Call to Action
  - Foundations
  - Non-Profit
  - Volunteering
  - Sponsorship
  - Partnerships

Ms. Tiffany Podzemny wanted to know the difference in what we initially asked the public for vs what are we asking for now. The Director stated several options:

1. Funding needs to match your assets.
2. What is a neighborhood park?
3. What is the difference between a regional and community park?
4. Each neighborhood park should have its own character.
  - Community Gardens
  - Cultural
  - Not having restrooms
5. Need more public support.

C. Seasonal Hiring. David Wilson, Assistant Director, gave an update on the seasonal hiring for this year. Available jobs needed for the Pools are:

- Lifeguards
- Swim Lesson Coordinators
- Pool Managers
- Assistant Pool Managers
- Cashiers

Recreation and Warford staff have all been filled. Staff is also looking to extend the Thompson Pool season for another month with limited hours.

D. Reset Program. The Assistant Director stated that Parks and Recreation staff partnered with Public Health and was awarded a grant to start a Reset Program that will provide education on nutrition and a fitness program in our parks. This would include a mobile trailer that would go to various parks at different times and locations to provide this service. Staff is currently hiring fitness instructors.

E. Warford Grant Opportunities. The Assistant Director stated the need to upgrade the Warford facilities due to cosmetic issues such as:

- Leaking roof
- A/C units need to be replaced
- Lighting

Staff will be applying for a Block Grant through CDBG (Community Development).

F. Budget and Community Investment Program Update. The Director stated that staff has submitted our budget and Capital requests along with supplemental requests to go to the City Manager first for approval then to council. The Director also stated that salary savings from Park Maintenance season positions will be used to fund the mowing contract that will help with extra mowing in our parks. This contract will include various neighborhood and community parks, traffic islands, city public buildings and other areas throughout the city originally maintained by Park Maintenance staff. School Parks have not been decided as to who will maintain them.

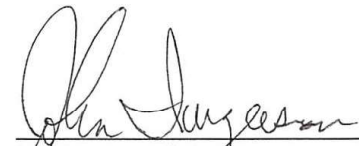
G. Upcoming Events. No future agenda items were requested.

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

ITEM 4: Adjournment. There, being no further business, Motion was made by Mr. Bob Altman, seconded by Ms. Tiffany Podzemny to adjourn the meeting at 2:48 p.m. This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the City Parks and Recreation Department.

After meeting adjourned, a few Park Board members along with Park staff toured Warford, Ross Rogers Golf Complex, Thompson Pool construction site and the Amarillo Zoo.

ATTEST:  
  
Sherylene Morris, Board Secretary

  
John Ingerson, Chairman  
7-14-21