

MINUTES

On July 13th, 2022 the Parks and Recreation Board met at 01:30 p.m. in the Parks and Recreation board room at 509 S. Johnson St, Amarillo, TX, 79101 for a Regular Meeting.

| VOTING MEMBERS | PRESENT | NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT | NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED |
|----------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ms. Terry Price | Yes | 53 | 46 |
| Mr. Luke Austin | No | 45 | 32 |
| Mr. Robert Altman | Yes | 36 | 34 |
| Ms. Tiffany Podzemny | Yes | 28 | 26 |
| Mr. Eric Hunter | No | 18 | 16 |
| Mr. Jeff Brain | Yes | 18 | 16 |
| Mr. Jonathan Grammer | No | 18 | 7 |
| Mr. John Forbis | Yes | 13 | 11 |
| Dr. Eddy Sauer | No | 13 | 6 |
| Mr. Jason Tillery | No | 13 | 3 |
| Mr. Shelby Massey | Yes | 7 | 7 |

ATTENDEES:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| MICHAEL KASHUBA | DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION |
| KRISTEN WOLBACH | ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION |
| FELISHA KING | RECORDING SECRETARY |
| COURTNEY WHITE | ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY |
| GEORGE PRIOLO | GENERAL MANAGER OF GOLF OPERATIONS |
| JAMES STOW | PARKS MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT |
| KELSEY SARGENT | RECREATION SUPERVISOR |
| REBEKAH DRYER | SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR |
| ERIC ELLERSICK | CIP PROJECT MANAGER |
| GLORIA TORRES | MARKETING COORDINATOR |
| KATHERYN MASSEY | BEAUTIFICATION AND PUBLIC ARTS COORDINATOR |

ITEM 1 Call to Order

Co-Chairman, Ms. Tiffany Podzemny, established a quorum and called the regular scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to order at 01:35 p.m.

ITEM 2 Public Forum

No public comments made.

ITEM 3 Discuss and Consider Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. John Forbis, said motion seconded by Mr. Shelby Massey, and unanimously carried to approve meeting minutes from June 08th, 2022, as written.

ITEM 4 The Parks and Recreation Board will Discuss or Receive reports on:

a) Staff Update

Ms. Kelsey Sargent introduces Ms. Rebekah ‘Becki’ Dryer, the new Special Events Coordinator.

b) Aquatics Update

Mr. Austin Farley, Aquatics Supervisor, gives the board a brief update on aquatics. Stating the season is running smoothly and continues to grow in attendance at most pools. Mr. Kashuba states that across the state, some cities, are open with a lower capacity or shorter hours due to staffing deficiencies. However, all 4 pools owned by the City, are open and fully operational. Mr. Shelby Massey inquires on a seasonal closing date, it is confirmed that August 7th is the last day of the season.

c) Martin Road Complex Update

Director updates the board on current progress at Martin Road Complex. The new entry and parking lot are completed. However, there have been issues with irrigation, due to construction. Parks Maintenance is addressing said issue with irrigation systems damaged. Director states that the last things to be completed are the fishing amenities, which are currently in progress.

d) Program and Events Update

Ms. Sargent informs the board of past events, current events, and future events. Including:

- Kids Summer Camp

- Triple A Club
- Fit & Play
- Starlight Cinema & Starlight Theatre
- Nerf Gun Wars
- Hooked on Fishing Camp
- Tentatively hosting the West Texas TRAPS regional event.

Ms. Katt Massey, Beautification and Public Arts Coordinator, updates the board on hosting State of the City on September 8th, 2022, from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M., at Sam Houston Park. This event will showcase City's departments and Civic organizations.

Mr. George Priolo, General Manager of Golf Operations, updates the board on the current progress of major tournaments hosted by the City's golf courses.

e) **Playgrounds Update**

Mr. Eric Ellersick, Capital Improvements Project Manager, updates the board on playground renovation progression. Monday, July 11th, two ribbon cutting ceremonies were held at Mary Hazelrigg Park and Sanborn Park. There were also 5 groundbreaking ceremonies held at Southeast Park, Glenwood Park, Stephen F. Austin Park, Hines Memorial Park and Pleasant Valley Park. Monday, July 18th demolition will begin on Stephen F. Austin Park and Southeast Park, which will include a press release that day, notifying the public. Tuesday, July 12th, City Council approved the playground replacement for Thompson Park Playground area number four. Due to equipment ship time delays, Pleasant Valley and Thompson Park installations will be slightly delayed. Mr. Kashuba also informs the board that PARD has partnered with AISD regarding Puckett Playground. It is stated that the existing rubber mulch was replaced with engineered wood fiber material. Mr. Ellersick adds that he is aiding AISD in the replacement of two outdated and worn slides on Puckett Playground as well.

f) **Budget Update**

Mr. Kashuba informs the board of the current status of the department's budget progress including an overview of fee changes for various divisions. A breakdown of metrics is also presented with the budget component summary.

g) **Park Maintenance**

Mr. Kashuba and Mr. Stow report to the board, current matters being tended to, within the irrigation systems, in parks. It is also stated that the new contractual services will be exponentially advantageous once preexisting issues are resolved. Mr. Stow also expressed the continuing issue of litter within the City's parks. Litter continues to be a growing issue. This issue engulfs staff priorities, in turn, this prevents the staff from solving irrigation issues that continue to be a challenge.

h) **Beautification and Public Arts Update**

Ms. Massey informs the board of progress on the Xcel Junction box artwork. It is also stated there have been 3 murals completed for the Mural Grant Program, which the Beautification and Public Arts Board, approved for reimbursement at the prior day's meeting. There will also be two more murals, with an anticipated finish date, within the month of August. Ms. Massey also notifies the board of a donation from the Panhandle Groundwater District and Texas Runs on Water. This donation entails a large mural executed on the north side of the Facilities Building at 823 S. Johnson St. Mr. Kashuba adds that he and Ms. Massey have been discussing the possibility of designated 'no mow' areas within Thompson park. Encouraging community education on natural development of Amarillo's native vegetation, while cutting maintenance costs for the department.

i) **Athletic Lighting Update**

Mr. Kashuba informs the board that the bid process is in the evaluation phase. The next phase will be the selection of an approved vendor.

j) **Memorial Amarillo College Agreement Update**

Mr. Kashuba informs the board that the City's legal team is working with Amarillo College's legal team, in establishing an agreement, to extend AC's boundary further south, as recommended by the Board previously. Ms. Courtney white confirms she is awaiting correspondence from AC's legal team.

k) **Botanical Gardens Update**

Mr. Kashuba updates the board that one lease for the Botanical Gardens will be expiring at the end of 2022 but the area encompassing the Botanical Gardens footprint is not impacted. He also states that he and Ms. White visited with Mr. Jonathan Grammer, who is on their board and the Parks Board, regarding the lease terms. Mr. Kashuba states all parties agree that a new lease is necessary. A new lease is to be drafted, upon the deadline of renewal, with all parties in unison of the terms.

l) Future Agenda Items

- 9th Street Parking Lot
- School Yard Update
- Lion's Club Partnership Update
- Next Meeting: August 10th, 2022, at 1:30 P.M.

Adjournment

There, being no further business, Motion was made by Mr. Bob Altman. Motion seconded by Mr. Jeff Brain to adjourn the meeting at 03:04 p.m. This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the City Parks and Recreation Department.

ATTEST:



Felisha King, Board Secretary



Luke Austin, Chairman