

MINUTES

On August 10th, 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	54	47
Mr. Luke Austin	Yes	46	33
Mr. Robert Altman	Yes	37	35
Ms. Tiffany Podzemny	Yes	29	27
Mr. Eric Hunter	No	19	16
Mr. Jeff Brain	Yes	19	17
Mr. Jonathan Grammer	No	19	7
Mr. John Forbis	No	14	11
Dr. Eddy Sauer	Yes	14	7
Mr. Jason Tillery	No	14	3
Mr. Shelby Massey	Yes	8	8

ATTENDEES:

- | | |
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| 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 |
| REBECKAH DRYER | SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR |
| ERIC ELLERSICK | CIP PROJECT MANAGER |
| GLORIA TORRES | MARKETING COORDINATOR |
| KATHERYN MASSEY | BEAUTIFICATION AND PUBLIC ARTS COORDINATOR |
| AUSTIN FARLEY | AQUATICS SUPERVISOR |
| BERKELEY HILLIARD | ZOO CURATOR |
| LONDON MILLER | WARFORD ACTIVITY CENTER SUPERVISOR |

- ITEM 1** Call to Order
Chairman, Mr. Luke Austin, established a quorum and called the regular scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to order at 01:31 p.m.
- ITEM 2** Public Forum
No public comments made.
- ITEM 3** Discuss and Consider Minutes
A motion was made by Ms. Terry Price, said motion seconded by Mr. Shelby Massey, and unanimously carried to approve meeting minutes from July 13th, 2022, as written.
- ITEM 4** The Parks and Recreation Board will Discuss or Receive reports on:
- a) Aquatics Update
Mr. Austin Farley, Aquatics Supervisor, gives the board a brief update on the aquatics season highlights. Southeast and Southwest pool closed for the season on August 7th. Thompson pool will remain open until the last weekend of August. Mr. Farley praises a smooth and successful season, and the off-season will entail preparation for next year’s season.
- b) Program and Events Update
Mrs. Kristen Wolbach updates the board on the State of the City Event. The event will be held Saturday, September the 10th at Sam Houston Park, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm followed by a movie showing. Ms. Wolbach explains that this event is conducted to engage the public with City Council Members. This event will be 100% sponsored, it is donor funded. It will feature non-profit vendors and the City of Amarillo’s departments. During intermission, the Mayor will engage with various city department representatives.
- Ms. Kelsey Sargent informs the board of past events, current events, and future events. Including:
- Kids Summer Camp Attendance, Upcoming Winter Camp
 - Triple A Club Attendance
 - Starlight Cinema & Starlight Theatre’s ending season

- Hooked on Fishing Camp

Ms. Rebeckah [XMI]Dryer updates the board on upcoming special events. Including:

- State of the City – September 10th at Sam Houston Park 5-8pm.
- Tree and Turf Safety Conference – October 6th 8:00 am - 5:00 pm at the Amarillo Civic Center, in the Heritage Room.
- Hocus Pocus in the Park – October 8th from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm at Memorial Park.

c) Zoo Update

Ms. Berkeley Hilliard updates the Board on the season's overall income from summer camps, summer programs, and zoo tours. Ms. Hilliard also shares the upcoming programs for the 2022-2023 season, zoo renovations, and new animal ambassadors.

Zoo Renovations:

- Bear Barn Roof shingles, replacing light fixtures for keeper and animal safety, out of Mesa's (bear cub) reach.
- Monkey Holding window, new paint, window seals, and an air conditioning unit.
- Cat building inside and outside siding, along with fans for the animal's comfort during the summer months.

New Ambassadors:

- American Black Bear twins Oyster and Truffles. Oyster, the male, will be renamed to Mordu. Truffles, the female, will be renamed as Merida. The new bears will improve Mesa's quality of life, having companions of her own species.
- Bobcat twins, Hampton and Huckleberry, are very habituated with humans and will be introduced into the Zoo's education programming.
- Coyotes, Wylie and Luna, former surrogate parents at the Wild West Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. They contain a percentage of red wolf, which is becoming an endangered species.
- Bird Eater Tarantula, Ruth, is a dinner plate-sized tarantula. She will be beneficial in the education of how spiders are crucial to the eco system.

d) Playgrounds Update

Mr. Eric Ellersick, Capital Improvements Project Manager, updates the board on playground renovation progress. He state that Stephen F. Austin, Southeast and Hines Memorial are the 3 renovations in progress. Thompson Park playground is estimated to be done early spring of 2023, due to long delayed equipment ship times. Mr. Luke Austin asks if there has been any feedback on the finished projects. Mr. Kashuba and Mr. Ellersick agree that feedback has been positive.

e) Park Maintenance

Mr. Kashuba and Mr. Stow report to the board, current matters being tended to, within the irrigation systems, in parks. Mr. Stow relays that irrigation is still an issue being worked through. He also states that the athletic field being leased by Amarillo College is making progress. Amarillo College is anticipating beginning training next week.

f) Beautification and Public Arts Update

Mrs. Massey updates the board regarding the Beautification and Public Arts Board Meeting on August 9th, being no quorum, there was no meeting held. Ms. Massey updates the board on the Mural Grant Program progress. Mural at Color Art is underway. The Murals to be placed on ALT and the Roseberry have a tentative competed timeframe of the end of September. Mr. Kashuba and Mrs. Massey also inform the board of a meeting held between the Parks and Recreation department and Ogallala Life. This meeting entailed the discussion of transforming spaces in parks, back to its' natural state. The goal behind this transformation is to educate the public on natural wildlife, increasing sustainability and improving water body quality.

g) Six Pack Outdoors Update

Mr. Kashuba informs the board that Six Pack Outdoors is planning a three-event race weekend on November 5th & 6th on City trails. He also states that the planned route for engineering, has been changed, due to a staffing change in the planning department. Mr. Ellersick states that TXdot has approved the necessary changes and the city is still working on acquiring the antiquities permit, before any more progress is made at the 9th street parking lot.

h) Senior Services Update

Mr. Kashuba and Mrs. Wolbach updated the board regarding ARPA funds designation. The Amarillo City Council has designated \$600,000 to eligible services and programs that will serve senior citizens in the Amarillo community. The Parks and Recreation department will be facilitating a Request for Applications (RFA) from eligible nonprofit organizations providing programming and services to senior citizens (50+). The RFA will be publicized August 3rd, 2022. A meeting will be held August 11th, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the Parks and Recreation administrative office. Applications are due to the City's Purchasing Department by 4:00 p.m. on September 29th, 2022. Preapproval of the applications will be conducted, by the Parks and Recreation Board,

before being presented to the Amarillo City Council. (*Mrs. Wolbach provides a handout with all information regarding this matter.*) Mr. Kashuba inquires if any board members would like to volunteer to review the applications or to designate a subcommittee for this task. Mr. Jeff Brain, Ms. Terry Price, and Mr. Bob Altman volunteer to assist with the review of applications.

i) Future Agenda Items

- 9th Street Parking Lot
- Budget Update
- Martin Road Update
- Athletic Lighting Update
- Next Meeting: September 14th, 2022, at 1:30 P.M.

Adjournment

There, being no further business, Motion was made by Mr. Bob Altman. Motion seconded by Mr. Shelby Massey to adjourn the meeting at 02:45 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