

MINUTES

On March 8th, 2023 the Parks and Recreation Board met at 01:30 p.m. at the Charles E. Warford Activity Center located at 1330 NW 18th. Ave., Amarillo, TX, 79107 for a Regular Meeting.

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Ms. Terry Price	No	58	50
Mr. Luke Austin	Yes	50	37
Mr. Robert Altman	Yes	41	39
Ms. Tiffany Podzemny	Yes	33	31
Mr. John Terry	Yes	3	3
Mr. Jeff Brain	Yes	23	21
Ms. Sherrie Ferguson	Yes	3	3
Mr. John Forbis	No	18	13
Dr. Eddy Sauer	Yes	18	10
Mr. Shelby Massey	Yes	13	12
Mrs. Skylar Gallop	Yes	2	2

ATTENDEES:

MICHAEL KASHUBA	DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
BECKI DRYER	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
JAMES STOW	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
MEGAN SMITH	RECORDING SECRETARY
COURTNEY WHITE	ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY
GEORGE PRIOLO	GENERAL MANAGER OF GOLF OPERATIONS
ERIC ELLERSICK	CIP PROJECT MANAGER
LANDON MILLER	WARFORD ACTIVITY CENTER SUPERVISOR
AUSTIN FARLEY	AQUATICS SUPERVISOR
BERKELEY HILLIARD	ZOO CURATOR
KELSEY SARGENT	RECREATION SUPERVISOR
CINDY PEREZ	BEAUTIFICATION AND PUBLIC ARTS COORDINATOR
JEFF WHITESELL	SENIOR SERVICES COORDINATOR

- 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 01:33 p.m.
- ITEM 2

Public Comments

No public comments made.
- ITEM 3

Discuss and Consider Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Jeff Brian, said motion seconded by Mr. Bob Altman, voting aye were 9 members, voting no were none, carried to approve meeting minutes from January 11th, 2023, as written.
- ITEM 4

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

a) Department Divisional Updates

1) Administration

Mr. Michael Kashuba briefs the Board Mr. John Forbis submitted his resignation letter and will no longer be a member on the Board. Mr. Kashuba also updates the board on staff updates. Ms. Becki Dryer and Mr. James Stow have been promoted to the Assistant Director Position. Cindy Perez is the new Beautification and Public Arts Coordinator. Mr. Eric Ellersick, the Capital Improvement Project Manager is resigning, and his last day will be March 17th. 2023.

2) Aquatics

Mr. Kashuba informs the Board, staff are currently going to different schools promoting job opportunities at the pools for the upcoming season. Staff will be hosting an open house at Warford in March where most of the new hiring and testing will take place.

3) Amarillo Zoo

Ms. Berkeley Hilliard updates the board on the new Jaguar at the Zoo. The Jaguar’s name is Bagheera and he was transferred from a sanctuary in California. Ms. Hilliard also shows the board pictures of Bagheera and updates on Bagheera’s transport, his behavior and how he is adjusting to his new home.

4) Athletics

Mr. Kashuba updates the board on the lease agreement with the Texas Panhandle Youth Sports Foundation. This agreement is a 10-year lease involving complexes at Rick Klein and John Stiff Memorial. During this lease the Texas Panhandle Youth Sports Foundation will be responsible for maintaining these complexes and will also allow TPYSF to make necessary capital improvements to the premises as stated in the contract. Mr. Kashuba informs the board this decision will benefit TPYSF as well as the city of Amarillo. This will allow Park maintenance to reallocate staff to spend more time on the other athletic fields and complexes.

5) Beautification and Public Arts

Mr. Michael Kashuba gives the board updates on the following projects:

- Bloomberg grant
 - The application has been submitted and winners will be announced in the Spring.
- Mural Grant Project
 - Five applicants were recommended and are awaiting approval from the city manager. The business names and amounts recommended are as follows:
 - ALT Adventure Space: \$6,000.
 - Fiesta Foods: \$6,000
 - Two Nine Investments: \$5,000
 - High Plains Food Bank: \$6,000
 - Don Harrington Discovery Center: \$6,000
- MPO Sub-Committee
 - This Sub-Committee is composed of a Parks and Recreation Staff member, a member of the general public and a Beautification and Public Arts Board Member. These members were recommended or volunteered and then voted for during the Beautification and Public Arts Advisory Board. This Sub-committee was made to bring Highway and enter city beautification and art recommendations to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).

6) Capital Projects

Mr. Kashuba updates the board on the current lighting projects at the athletic fields.

- Martin Road Complex and Southeast Complex: Contractors are almost finished and are just making final connections.
 - Southeast will not be available to use until Summer due to turf improvements.
- Rick Klein Soccer Fields: Concrete bases for the light poles have been installed. Contractors still need to go through the process of boring lines and installing panels and light poles.
- John Stiff Soccer fields: The surveyor went out and marked the locations for the light poles. The next step will be drilling these locations and installing concrete bases.
- Amarillo National Tennis Center: Project will begin once John Stiff Soccer fields have been completed.
- John Stiff Softball Complex: This project has been moved back to Winter due to athletic scheduling.

Mr. Eric Ellersick updates the board on the following projects:

- Thompson Park: Swings and small boat should be delivered by the end of April.
- El Alamo and Will Rogers: Site is prepped and ready for installation.
- West Hills Park and East Park: Plans for these parks were approved by City Council last month.
- John Stiff Memorial and Stephan F. Austin: Bids from contractor have been submitted to purchasing and will be awaiting an approval from City Council.
- 9th Street Trails Parking Lot: Awaiting approval.
- Lake House: Proposals for demolition have been submitted and are awaiting approvals for the next steps.

7) Golf Operations

Mr. George Priolo gives a brief budget and attendance update for February 2023 compared to the past 2 years.

8) Park Maintenance

Mr. James Stow informs the board they have received eight loads of engineered wood fibers that will be spread out on the playgrounds. Park Maintenance have already completed spreading the wood fibers out on the playgrounds on the West side. Maintenance has been busy preparing the splash pads, irrigation, parks, and other preparation for the upcoming season.

9) Recreation and Special Events

Ms. Kelsey Sargent and Ms. Becki Dryer updated the board on past and upcoming events as follows:

- Past Events
 - Smash Bros Competition: 1/20 - 17 attendees.
 - Enchanted Encanto Ball: 2/10 - 90 attendees.
 - Kids Day Out: 2/17 - 19 attendees.
 - Rocket League Competition: 2/17 - 15 attendees.
 - Kids Day Out: 2/20 - 15 attendees.
 - Superhero Bash: 2/24 - 70 attendees.
 - PCHEA: Occurs every Tuesday - 40 (average) attendees.
- Future Events:
 - Amarillo Delights – March 11th
 - American Girl Doll Tea Party – March 12th
 - Spring Break Camp – March 13th-17th
 - Coding 101 – March 23rd
 - Mario Kart Competition – March 17th
 - Kids Day Out – April 7th
 - Mother and Son Adventures – April 15th
 - Lego Camp – April 11th & 25th

10) Senior Services

Mr. Jeff Whitsell updates the Board on the "Coffee and Donuts Senior Social" event. 40 people from the age range of 60 to mid-90s attended. This event was at the Charles E. Warford Activity Center on February 25th. Mr. Whitsell expressed he wanted to introduce the seniors to the Center as he intends to have many activities to come. Mr. Whitsell has renovation plans to start replacing floors in the classrooms. The labor of installing the floor will be donated and the flooring materials should only cost about \$8,000.

Mr. Whitsell's goal is to get the seniors citizens out into the community and help build more relationships. Since Warford accepts Silver Sneakers, the seniors who qualify can come to Warford at little to no cost.

11) Tennis Operations

Updated with capital projects.

12) Warford Activity Center

Mr. Landon Miller shares the current goal of the facility is to get people in the doors during those times that the kids are at school. Staff are excited to find new ways to get seniors in the door to enjoy the Warford facility. After the meeting is over Mr. Miller will give the Board Members a tour of the facilities.

13) Future Agenda Items

Playground Update.

Project Update.

ITEM 5

Present, Discuss and Consider Action on "Happy Hour" Fee Adjustments

This item will include discussion and consideration of actions to approve the proposed "Happy Hour" fee adjustments for Golf Operations.

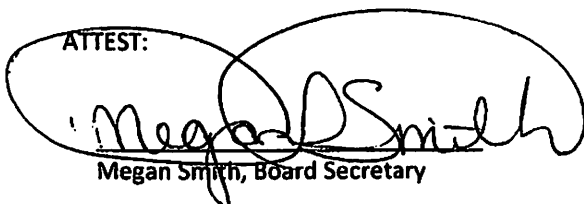
Mr. George Priolo presents the board with a Power Point updating them on the price of "Happy Hour" for the past three years. George explains his proposal to raise the "Happy Hour" fee at Comanche Trail \$2 per individual and \$4 per family. The fee at Ross Rogers proposal will increase \$5 per individual and \$10 per family. Mr. Bob Altman made a recommendation to move forward with the fee proposal to City Council, said motion was seconded by Dr. Eddy Sauer, voting aye were 9 members, voting no were none, carried to approve said motion.

ITEM 6

Adjournment

There, being no further business, Motion was made by Mr. Bob Altman to adjourn the meeting, said motion was seconded by Mr. Shelby Massey, voting aye were 9 members, voting no were none this meeting was adjourned at 03:10 p.m. This meeting was recorded, and all comments are on file with the City Parks and Recreation Department.

ATTEST:


Megan Smith, Board Secretary


Tiffany Podzemny, Vice Chairman