

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission
Conference Room A, City Hall
September 26, 2011 – 6 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Hebekeuser.

Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Marty Stinson.

Members Present: Commissioners Sherri Chavora, Michael Espich, Jeff Selbig, and Vice-Chairperson Jerry Hebekeuser.

Members Absent: Chairperson Marsha Ladd (excused).

Others Present: Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development.

Vice-chairperson Hebekeuser introduced and welcomed the new member to the board, Michael Espich.

Approve Agenda for September 26, 2011:

A motion to approve the agenda as presented by Commissioner Chavora and supported by Commissioner Espich.

Ayes: all, motion carried

Approve Minutes from September 13, 2011 meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2011 meeting was made by Commissioner Chavora and supported by Commissioner Selbig.

Ayes: all, motion carried

Public Comments: None at this time.

Communications:

1. Staff memorandum
2. September 13, 2011 minutes
3. Fundraising report from September 19, 2011
4. Park plan narrative
5. Plan tables (park system, five year plan, six year and beyond plan)

Business:

1. Park Plan Updates

Commissioner Selbig commented on drinking water for Collamer Park.

Mr. Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development, presented information about a grant application for the Bentley Park. It has not been awarded yet. It was expected at the end of September. This was good news as it may indicate they are still in the running; possibly for a second round application. This may be to our advantage as the Bentley Park project is much farther along with donations now being received and a possible water feature being added.

There was further discussion about watering the community gardens at Collamer Park from Hopkins Lake with a hand pump, and maybe installing a water connection for a drinking fountain and the dog park.

The next step for the Parks and Recreation Plan according to Mr. Zettel would be to insert the photos and

bind the copies. Then the plan will be sent to the Council in late October or early November if we don't get public comments.

Commissioner Chavora would like a statement added that the plan has some dated material included. Mr. Zettel commented that something could be added along the lines of "It is the intent of the Parks and Recreation Commission to update information in years to come after further considerations."

Motion by Commissioner Chavora, supported by Commissioner Selbig to accept the Parks and Recreation Plan with changes for a potable water supply at Collamer Park and the inclusion of a disclaimer on the need to update demographic data when the plan is next reviewed; for distribution and circulation of the plan for not less than one month; for subsequent review by the Owosso City Council at a public hearing to follow the review period; for recommendation of approval of the plan to the Owosso City Council pending public comment.

Ayes: all, motion carried

2. Fundraising update / Bentley Park

Commissioner Chavora discussed the Scarecrows in the Park event to be held on October 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. Flyers will be distributed to students tomorrow and Wednesday. They have five scarecrows registered already. There are businesses that may sponsor a classroom. Banners will hang on the tennis courts. There are postcards that will be mailed. There will be a band, a pumpkin decorating contest, coloring contest, prizes, a bounce house, a moon walk, and more.

Mr. Zettel reviewed the reports. He stated there is \$61,000 committed or collected so far for the Bentley Park. He also noted that we need to start thinking about organizing a "to do" list for the projects.

Commissioner Comments:

Vice-Chairperson Hebekeuser gave an update on the ball park: the footings are done and they are ready for the poured walls pending the weather.

Commissioner Chavora asked about the top of the snow hill. Mr. Zettel stated the DPW is not able to change it yet, but he will check on that again.

Commissioner Chavora asked how the Holman Pool was coming along. Mr. Zettel said they are working on the demolition in their spare time which is not much. It may not get done soon as they have the leaf program coming up soon.

Commissioner Chavora asked about a skating rink. Mr. Zettel said there is nothing new to report. It may be in a long term budget to make one possible where the pool was. Mr. Zettel will follow up on that also. Ms. Chavora noted that if we have a rink, we'll need lighting as in the winter it's dark by 5:30. Mr. Zettel will do some homework and bring back some information to the October meeting.

Commissioner Selbig reported on the disc golf and some possible property use. Some is city property also. There may also be a possible trail installed that goes from Collamer Park to Rosevear Park.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Espich and was supported by Commissioner Selbig. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Ayes: all, motion carried

Marty Stinson, Recording Secretary