# THE CITY OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS MINUTE RECORD OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Following notice and publication, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board convened in a regular meeting at 3:30 p.m. May 25, 2017 in the South Meeting Room, McNease Convention Center, 500 Rio Concho Dr., San Angelo, Texas.

Board members present were Donald Barnhart, Christina Woodard, Laurie Dicello, Michael Perry and Kenneth Dierschke.

Staff members present were Carl White, Brent Casey, Roger Havlak and Mike Hitchcock and minutes were recorded by Ida Rios.

# I. OPEN SESSION (3:32 p.m.)

# A. Call to Order.

Mr. Barnhart called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

## B. Public Comment.

Introduction of new board member Michael Perry.

### II. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of approving the April 27, 2017 meeting minutes.

Ms. Woodard made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as recorded. Ms. Dicello seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT

2. Consideration of recommending matters related to the control of prairie dogs at Mary E. Lee Park.

Mr. White presented background information on the prairie dogs around the nature center. City staff has met with Animal Services, Lake Patrol, U.S. Wildlife Fishery Services and Texas Park and Wildlife on the issue to see what can be done. There are safety and property loss concerns for the parks and for residences close by. In addition, prairie dogs carry fleas which carry diseases. The preferred option would be to contain them and create a "prairie dog town" or relocate them to another area. A "prairie dog town" would cost approximately \$50,000 to build in house or \$75,000 if contracted out and does not include the cost of maintaining the area. The Board discussed over population issues and how the prairie dogs would regulate themselves. The State Park is open to relocating some to their park. Ms. Kat Bunker, Naturalist at the San Angelo Nature Center, added some additional background information and answered questions from the Board on how the prairie dogs regulate themselves. The plan may be two-fold, relocating some and containing a few for a park. The Board would like additional information on the cost of maintaining a Prairie Dog Park similar to the one in Lubbock and the State Park about relocating them there. The board discussed getting additional information on the vacuum truck to help relocate the prairie dogs and the cost. At the next meeting, staff will present more information on relocating them and a schedule.

3. Discussion on upcoming funded (and approved unfunded) park improvement projects and recommendation of any related matters.

Mr. White discussed the list of funded projects. Attached is a list of the unfunded improvement projects prioritized as a part of the permanent record. The Board discussed the end of the half cent sales tax for parks and what the process is to get additional funds. The Board also discussed a bond versus sales tax and would like to hear additional information on funding for the projects from grants, sales taxes and bonds.

4. Report on the FY 17-18 budget for the Parks and Recreation Divisions and recommendation of any related matters.

The Budget is attached as a part of the permanent record.

6. Consideration of future agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.ns

The Board would like an update on the Chapel at "Old Town", prairie dog town and the dog park.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Approved