

**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. January 23, 2014 in the South Meeting Room, McNease Convention Center, 500 Rio Concho Dr, San Angelo, Texas.

Board members present were Mr. Louis Perez, Mr. Donald Barnhart, Ms. Gloria Henderson, Mr. Mike Campbell, Ms. Julia Lane, Ms. Debbie Cross, Ms. Susan Gober and Ms. Mary Palos.

Staff members present were Mr. Carl White and Mr. Mike Hitchcock. Minutes were recorded by Mrs. Ida Rios.

I. OPEN SESSION (3:30 p.m.)

A. Call to Order

Mr. Perez called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

B. Public Comment

Mr. Perez welcomed Ms. Susan Gober to the Board. Date Night will be held on February 10-12, 2014. This event is a good way to bring you daughter out and have a great time. As a board, it is beneficial to get to know the staff. He recommends board members volunteer to help out on this event.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration of approving the November 21, 2013 meeting minutes.

Mr. Campbell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes seconded by Ms. Palos. The motion passed unanimously.

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENT

2. Update on the progress of the creation of a public museum (at the Vogel Blacksmith shop), partly located on Bart DeWitt Park and consideration of approving matters related thereto.

Mr. White presented background information and a review of this item. Last meeting, the Board approved extending the contract with the City of San Angelo and Eric Eggemeyer for six months with the stipulation that he report progress to the Board every two months. Mr. Eggemeyer reported that he has met with Mr. Howard Taylor with the Museum of Fine Arts and they are taking pictures and researching equipment to display in the area. They are also proofing plaques for the displays and identification of the equipment. Also, the Downtown Association would like to develop a fundraiser for the Elmer Kelton portion of the display. A welder fixed the fence for better security. Also, more equipment will be coming from the Burrows Foundation. AEP was installing a new line on the property so it limited the amount of improvements done in the month of January. The next update will be March, 2014.

3. Consideration of approving matters related to the creation of pickle-ball courts on existing park tennis courts.

Mr. White presented background and introduction to the sport of pickle-ball. Some locations where these courts may be incorporated by using existing tennis court slabs are Santa Rita Park, Jaime Padron Memorial Park, Meadow Creek Park, Brown Park, Firefighter's Memorial City Park, Brentwood Park, Mountain View Park, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Park and Bell Park. There are also slabs at the Love Municipal Pool, recreation center courts or adding new slabs at different locations. There is minimal cost and the benefits would be that underutilized courts will be used for a growing sport as well as the health benefits.

Ms. Lane stated that she has not played but when she passes the courts you can hear the players laughing and having fun. Some who are no longer able to play tennis enjoy playing pickle-ball and it is good exercise. They are holding pickle-ball tournaments and the national champion is a San Angelo resident.

Ms. Mertz, Santa Rita Homeowner's Association stated that she believes it is a good fit for Santa Rita Park and would like Santa Rita park to be the first to try.

The Board discussed the cost of converting courts to pickle-ball versus basketball. Most courts are not used that often and the cost would be minimal to convert them to pickle-ball by using the same courts, changing the lines and adding netting. The board also discussed beginning a pickle-ball league and areas along the river where courts could be located.

If approved, the court at Santa Rita Park would be ready for the spring and the pool courts would be ready for the summer with a report back on how it is working out.

Mr. Campbell made a motion recommending converting the tennis court at Santa Rita Park into a pickle-ball court using the existing tennis court net and then one or two courts at the Love Municipal Court during the summer with equipment that can be checked out at the pool during pool hours. Mr. Barnhart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of approving a proposal for the operation of a public cruise paddle wheel steamboat at one of the Lake Nasworthy parks.

Mr. Matt Fox presented background and introduction information on this item. Mr. Fox is a resident of San Angelo and would like to bring a paddle-wheel steam boat to Lake Nasworthy. The Concho River Queen Cruises would provide a fifty minute sightseeing cruise with a short narrative about the lake and water conservation information. The Concho River Queen is designed for shallow water use and Mr. Fox believes it would be a good fit for the lake area. The boat can carry a maximum of twenty passengers and would require a three man crew, along with a ticket sales person. In addition, he would require a floating dock. There are two proposed areas for the dock with the cost being approximately \$9,000 to \$14,000 and approximately fifty feet of lake-front property. Mr. Fox would cover the cost of building the dock. One of the proposed sights is located at Mary Lee Park the other is just behind the Nature Center. The lease for this venture would be similar to the lease with Concho Cruises which is currently operating on the lake.

The Board discussed development of the Gateway Study and its effects on this business venture, the water levels and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department rules and regulations. The Board also discussed parking, private parties, alcohol use and/or sales and the source of fuel for the steamboat.

On the 18th of February the concept of this agreement will be taken to City Council to ask for approval to negotiate an agreement with Concho River Queen Cruises. This agreement will then go back to Council for consideration.

Ms. Pamela Miller, Convention and Visitors Bureau and Councilman Rodney Fleming both stated that they are in favor of this venture.

Ms. Henderson made a motion to approve the proposal as presented. Ms. Palos seconded the motion which passed unanimously

5. Consideration of approving matters related to Parks & Recreation improvements projects as part of the City's Capital Improvement Plan for the next fiscal year.

Mr. White presented a list of projects with funding and other projects that are in the future and not funded. Four projects presented to the Board to discuss adding to the Capital Improvement Plan are a dog park, a splash pad at the Love Municipal Pool, paths connecting the river trail from Bell Street to the Lone Wolf Bridge and Glenmore Park and a multi-generational recreation center. Ms. Henderson stated that the old fire training center might be a good location for a multi-generational recreation center.

Mr. Campbell made a motion to add the four projects to this year's Capital Improvement Plan. Ms. Cross seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

6. Consideration of approving matters related to the 2014 River Fest.

Mr. White updated the Board on River Fest for 2014. A copy of his report is included as a part of the permanent record. Council approved this event for 2014 without any City funding. In addition, there is a color run in March at Lake Nasworthy, which is not associated with River Fest, However, this will raise money to help with the liability from the River Fest. There will also be another 5K run with the River Fest. The date will be moved to September. We will report to Council again in June with an update on sponsorships. Although the pool will be closed during this time, we may be able to book a party or add the pool as an area for a sponsorship during the concerts. The Bosque will have some improvements that may affect holding this event in that area in the future.

7. Update on the conceptual development of the games court area ("The Bosque") of the concho river improvement project.

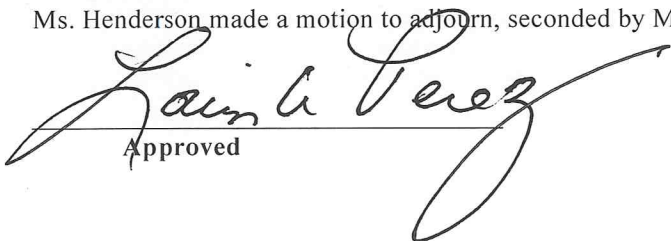
Mr. White took to Council in September a request to authorize a committee to discuss the design for "the Bosque". On February 18, 2014 an update on finances, and development of "the Bosque" and final change order, including LED lights and work on columns will go to Council. The committee appointed would like to move forward with an 18-hole putt-putt course, food carts area and a children's area with a carousel and a play area.

8. Discussion of future agenda items.

At the next meeting we will discuss elections of chair and vice-chair and moving the March meeting to another date.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Henderson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Lane. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.


Approved