

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2015 AT 4:00 P.M.  
HELD IN YOUTH CENTER, 115 WEST AVENUE O**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Evelyn Holguin at 4:00 p.m.

**Present:** Vice Chairman Evelyn Holguin, Members Marla Price, and Clint Laughrin.

**Also Present:** City Manager James Williams, City Clerk Carol Ann Hogue, Administrative Assistant Anna Juarez, Parks Supervisor Dennis Martin, and Recreation Junior Rubio.

**Not Present:** Member Jonathan Rogers, Lucrecia Rodriguez, and Rachel Gallagher

**NON-ACTION ITEMS:**

**Discussion of Parks & Recreation Master Plan:** City Manager Williams asked Members to complete their strength and weaknesses worksheet of all parks which will be used to schedule improvements of all neighborhood parks, recreational fields, and aquatic center. City Manager Williams stated Parks & Recreation board meets to identify the needs of the community based on what citizens have told staff or members of the board; meeting to be scheduled in the next 45 days. No action was taken, only discussion.

**Discussion of Chaparral Park Splash Pad:** City Manager Williams stated splash pad would be located where the old fountain is currently at; walking trail will need to be rerouted. City Manager Williams stated funds are available for splash pad in the amount of \$200,000.00 from the bond sale; next 10 days releasing RFP for project. City Manager Williams stated a direct dial 911 phone will be placed out there in case of emergencies. No action was taken, only discussion.

**Discussion of Chaparral Park Playground Equipment:** City Manager Williams informed Members of funding available for additional equipment; equipment can be ordered through a State Contract, no RFP is needed. City Manager Williams asked Members what Age Group City should target. Veronica Pando stated teens are out there on playground equipment in the evenings. Members and Staff discussed having an informal gathering at the Chaparral Park to receive feedback on what type of playground equipment the community would like to see at the parks; members and staff suggested poll, surveys, and Facebook site to get community involved. Vice Chairman Holguin asked about adding woodchips on Polk playground equipment; Parks Supervisor Martin responded he is waiting on dump truck from Streets department to be available due to shortage of employees. City Manager Williams stated basketball goals will be added to Youth Center, Chaparral Park and Martin Luther King. Members and staff discussed

lights that need to be replaced at the fields and Martin Luther King Park; Junior Rubio from Recreation department stated Strong Electric is working on lights and replacing poles. Junior Rubio from Recreation department stated electrical line for irrigation needs to be repaired; field is getting water with water trucks, but drying out quickly. City Manager Williams stated final walk through at Chaparral Park will be Thursday, August 20, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.; placement of sprinklers will be looked at. Splash pad will use fresh chlorinated water and try to incorporate shade structures and picnic tables. City Manager Williams stated pump for fountain is ordered to help circulate water. No action was taken, only discussion.

Commissioner Campos arrives at 4:25 p.m.

**Discussion of Joint Use of Facilities:** City Manager Williams informed Members of conversation with public schools having a joint use agreement for schools to provide facilities and City provide extra security, assistance with cleanups, unlocking and locking the football facility, and being able to prosecute for trespassing. Schools are installing more security cameras; public needs to take responsibility for their actions and know the use of facilities is a privilege. Commissioner Campos stated signage of hours, use, and rules, and with cameras and police presences will help with violators, but City needs whole community effort to minimize potential damages incurred. Member Laughrin asked if playground equipment is included in use of facilities; Commissioner Campos responded, later on community will have access to more facilities, such as workout facility, playground equipment, and gymnasium. Members discussed using playgrounds for seasonal baseball and football practices for the youth. City Manager Williams stated in comprehensive plan a neighborhood park is being considered for development on the south side of town. No action was taken, only discussion.

**Approval of Agenda:** Vice Chairman Holguin called for a motion to approve the agenda. Member Price so moved. Chairman Campos seconded. Motion was approved.

**Approval of the Regular Minutes of April 22, 2015:** Vice Chairman Holguin called for a motion to approve the minutes for April 22, 2015 as submitted. Member Price so moved. Member Laughrin seconded. Motion was approved

**OTHER:** City Manager Williams stated Citizen Gina from Cornerstone suggested a great idea of having movie at the park. City Manager Williams stated Gina was going to organize and supply equipment; however a license is required for public showings. Cost per movie is \$300 to \$500 and cost of equipment about \$12 -\$15 thousand. Members discussed potential companies funding for equipment, grants, sponsorship, volunteers, fee for vendors, maintaining and operating movies. Members discussed type of movies to show, movies at no cost to the community, and movies to be family orientated. Members discussed community support, community interest, and consider a poll from community.

**Youth Center:** City Manager Williams informed Members of media center with gaming consoles and coffee bar project planned for the Youth Center to encourage teens to visit Youth Center; gaming system will be secured, limited time, and rules will be established after media is purchased. City Manager Williams stated After School Adventures utilized lots of different City facilities; After School Adventures offered tutoring, enrichment, computer time, and crafts.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/OTHER:** Betty Price stated:

- Avenue D Park - tables need to be nailed or bolted down
- Swimming pool – screws on the stairs to the slide need to be screwed down
- Swimming pool – mold needs to be cleaned up on the staircase
- Swimming pool – equipment on chains needs to be replaced
- Swimming pool – umbrellas need to be cleaned
- Swimming pool – manager would be on phone and laptop and was rude
- Swimming pool – lifeguard swimming during public time

Member Laughrin asked why water features are not working; City Manager Williams responded a change in State law required a separate chlorinated water source with a cost of \$40,000 for equipment. Member Price asked if anything could be placed around fireplace on the Boy Scout hut, to keep teenagers and children off of it. City Manager Williams stated he will look into it. Member Laughrin asked if fence at Avenue D Park will be installed; City Manager Williams responded fence will be installed this year; just waiting on quote, which will include a portion of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Avenue D. Vice Chairman Evelyn Holguin asked about repairs to baseball fields restrooms; City Manager Williams stated repairs were budgeted; working on quotes from contractors. City Manager Williams stated two board appointments are expired; Vice Chairman Evelyn Holguin and Member Clint Laughrin stated they would like to be reappointed to board.

**Tour of Youth Center:** Members and staff toured the Youth Center. Youth Center Director Jami Bailey and Staff described all rooms in facility. Youth Center Director Bailey stated rental for ballroom area is \$1,000.00; \$500.00 deposit and \$500.00 rental. Youth center has a computer lab room, snack bar will possibly house media area, some storage areas, kitchen, mechanical room, LACES room, Teen Court room, Meeting room, and a Gym. The snack bar is rented for baby showers and birthday parties for a fee of \$300.00; \$150.00 deposit and \$150.00 rental. Members & Staff discussed marketing the various activities and uses of the Youth Center facility.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIRMAN, PAUL CAMPOS**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**VICE CHAIRMAN, EVELYN HOLGUIN**