

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2013 @ 4:00 P.M.
HELD IN CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 214 S. LOVE STREET**

Present: Members Neil Granath, Marla Price, Evelyn Holguin, and Clint Laughrin.

Also present: City Manager James Williams, Assistant City Manager Jared Cobb, Administrative Assistant Imelda Gutierrez, City Clerk Carol Ann Hogue, Parks Supervisor Dennis Martin and Recreation Marcial Rubio.

Not Present: Members Mike Gallagher, Tanner Gandy, and Victoria Ochoa

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Neil Granath at 4:00 p.m.

Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson: Member Granath appointed Mike Gallagher as the Chairman. Member Price appointed Evelyn Holguin as the Vice-Chairman. Member Price so moved. Member Laughrin seconded. Motion was approved.

Approval of Agenda: Member Granath called for a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Member Holguin so moved. Member Price seconded. Motion was approved.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

Review of Ordinance 507- Lovington Parks & Recreation Advisory Board: Member Granath read Ordinance No. 507. City Manager Williams stated that it's another form to incorporate people to get their ideas and make plans to find funds for Parks & Recreation and take the recommendations to the City Commission. This ordinance was approved by the City Commission on May 28, 2013. No action was taken.

Review of the Parks Inventory for Avenue D Park & Chaparral Park: City Manager Williams mentioned that Assistant City Manager Cobb spent the morning on June 13, 2013 taking inventory of the parks, of all park amenities, such as shelters, picnic tables, and trash receptacles. This information was collected to provide a starting point for the discussion of the park facilities. The Ave D Park is approximately two acres; the restrooms had to come down due to sewer problems and were not usable for the public. The City is looking into renting porta-johns as a temporary solution for the summer. The cost for this is \$25 per unit/ \$50 a week. At the chaparral park, it is maintained daily by the parks employees but they also have four other parks to maintain as well as public buildings. Member Holguin was concerned about the lighting at the chaparral park due to it being 65 acres. The water fountain in the center of the park has been a concern to the Parks Supervisor Martin due to the concrete being broken. Mr. Martin suggested a gazebo to replace the fountain. There are plans for a new irrigation system and more fertilizer. Member Price suggested a sandbox for the bouncers and water slides. Mr. Cobb mentioned that the liability and the grass was the reason for not allowing bouncers at the parks. No action was taken.

Discussion of Recent Improvements to the Parks and Recreation System: City Manager Williams stated that over the past few months a number of improvements have been made to the Parks & Recreation System. The Lovington Aquatic Center had the interior landscaped. Twenty-three trees were planted at the Chaparral Park with watering bags. Over hundred dead trees were removed from Chaparral Park. Two parks employees received their herbicide license. All shelters at the Chaparral Park were repainted by trustees. The Little League baseball infields were reworked. No action was taken.

Discussion of Parks and Recreation Rules: City Manager Williams mentioned the rules of the Ave D Park, Chaparral Park, Chaparral Lake, Lovington Aquatic Center and Runnels Ballpark. Currently, these are the only parks and recreation facilities with posted rules. This is the time to give the rules a thorough review and propose changes (if any) to the City Commission. No action was taken.

ACTION ITEMS

Discussion of the 2013-2014 Parks Department Capital Outlay Budget: City Manager Williams provided the members with the 2013-2014 budget. The budget provides \$20,000 for the purchase of two new swing sets. This was approved prior to the establishment of the Board. Staff thought it would be appropriate to solicit Board input and offer a recommendation to the City Commission. These funds may be used for any capital improvements to the parks. The cost for material for a 16'x20' open steel frame would cost \$13,600 and the 28'x 45' is \$31,500. No action was taken.

Discussion of Public Restrooms at Runnels Ballpark: City Manager Williams provided the members with the 2013-2014 Recreation Department capital outlay budgets that provides \$150,000 for the construction of restrooms at the Runnels Ballpark. Several configurations were submitted to the members. In addition, the City would like input regarding the location of additional restrooms at other parks and recreation facilities. Assistant City Manager Cobb did some searching on the cost to build restrooms and playgrounds. Member Granath made a recommendation to build two small restroom units for the chaparral park and runnels ballpark. Member Holguin so moved. Member Price seconded. Motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
MEMBER, NEIL GRANATH

ATTEST: _____
MEMBER, EVELYN HOLGUIN