

**PARKS & RECREATION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014
6:15 P.M.**

The Parks & Recreation Board met on the above date and time in the Council Chambers, 270 W. 15th Street. President Aaron Gurley called the meeting to order. Members present were: Sue Otte, Dave Malson, James Zachery and Paul Barada. Will St. John was absent. Also present was Parks Director Danny Mathews, Secretary Carla Sharpe, Attorney Tracy Newhouse, Athletic Director Dave Green, Pool Manager Rita Kaster, Ball League President Ryan Berkemeier and Councilman Brian Conner.

Approval of Minutes – Malson stated on the second page of the minutes he would like the wording “There was no motion concerning the matter” added to the paragraph concerning the Outdoor Movie Theater info.

Barada made a motion to approve March 11, 2014 minutes as amended. Otte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Claims Approval – Reviewed prior to meeting by Zachery and Otte. Zachery made a motion to approve the claims for the month as presented. Otte seconded the motion. Motion carried. Claims approved.

Mayor’s Report – None at this time.

Parks Director’s Report – Mathews stated the restrooms are up and ready to go.

Easter Egg Hunt – Mathews reported the Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 19th at noon. The Parks Department will be passing out nerf balls if anyone wants to help in passing them out be at South Veterans Memorial Park at noon.

Summer Parks Program – Gurley stated he is bringing in new people this year for a different variety of programs so they won’t be the same as last year.

Intat has agreed to pay for the t-shirts again this year.

More donations are coming in with a balance of \$3,300 left from last year.

This year the program will be the week of July 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Monday through Friday.

Clean Green has donated water bottles this year instead of going through all those cups.

Reports from Other Committees & Boards –

James Zachery – Fitness Initiative Team – Zachery reported nothing new. The Circle Gathering will meet this Thursday to go over the presentation for the grants and hopefully we will get one for the mile markers for the parks. F.I.T.’s big event is planned for August 16th.

Aaron Gurley – Parks Patrol Update – Gurley stated he has not spoken to the chief and is not sure what has happened thus far on this program.

Barada stated with the recent vandalism he hopes this program still exists.

Berkemeier stated it was reported in a Council meeting that the Parks Patrol started April 1st and will go through October of this year.

Carla Sharpe – Amphitheater Update – Sharpe reported the headliners have been booked, working on openers at this time. Passed out concert magnets to board members and stated sponsorships are still coming in.

Unfinished Business – Vandalism Update – They have caught the two individuals (2 juveniles) and they are being prosecuted.

New Business – Ball League Contracts – Sharpe reported that she has Lease Agreements for Rush County Little League which is the Rush County T-Ball League,

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Little League and Girls' Softball League that Ryan Berkemeier will sign as President of all the leagues.

The Men's Softball League will be signed by Craig Kuhn and she has been told there is now a new group called the Red Storm Travel League which is the name for the different entities, those being the 8's -10's, 12's-14's Softball Leagues and 8-10-12 Baseball Leagues and that Doug Marlow is in charge.

They carry their own insurance and have their own costs.

After further discussion Barada made a motion that there needs to be a \$250.00 Maintenance Fee and a \$250.00 In Kind Maintenance Fee for the new Red Storm Travel League. Malson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Red Storm Travel League will have a field work day this Friday and Saturday.

Items Not Known In Advance – Dave Green – School Request – Green stated that back in 2007 the City and High School agreed to have a Lease Agreement where the High School paid \$1.00 Security Deposit and \$500.00 Maintenance Fee or showed \$500.00 worth of work receipts. Green stated the Men's Softball uses this field too. Both groups have paid this from 2007 to 2009. Then all of a sudden it stopped. The High School now has a problem with their scoreboard as the LED lights lighting up the innings aren't working and needs fixed.

He has been told by Sharpe that there is no money available in their Maintenance Fund and is now asking that the Men's Softball cover ½ this expense and the High School cover the other ½ of the expense to fix the scoreboard.

Sharpe stated that in 2010 the city administration did a Donation Agreement with the High School for the School to donate the right of way at the ball diamond for the 16th Street Project. By doing this the High School did not have to pay for any fees at the Swimming Pool and the Ball Diamond until a total of \$30,500.00 had been met.

Sharpe stated that also in 2010 the ball diamond was upgraded at a cost of \$27,689.25 which came out of the Non Reverting Fund that was never reimbursed.

The hospital sponsored the scoreboard at \$10,000.00 and Sharpe suggested that maybe the scoreboard was still under warranty and that should be checked out.

Green stated that the scoreboard was purchased from Cain Signs and he will check with them.

Green also stated he would like to see the \$500 Maintenance Fee implemented back into the lease agreement so that money can be used for repairs.

Parks Liaison Brad Berkemeier stated Aaron Gurley came to last Relay for Life meeting and has offered for the Parks Department to sponsor a Spring Dance to raise money for Relay for Life in April.

Gurley stated he had not talked to Mathews about this yet and would like to do that first.

Pool Manager Rita Kaster handed the board members a list of employees she would like to hire for the Swimming Pool for the 2014 Season, pending certification.

Malson stated he thought the board was to be included in the selection process.

Kaster stated with kids in school, kids in college and sports it's hard to get them all together.

Malson stated he would like to have a Special meeting to look over applications.

Mathews stated he doesn't see anything wrong with her recommendations.

Malson stated the Mayor wants a more hands on approach when hiring employees and he feels that everyone should get an interview.

After further discussion it was decided to have an Executive Session next Tuesday, April 15th at 6:15 p.m. to look over applications and to conduct interviews at 7:00 p.m. at the Laughlin Shelter House with a Special meeting to follow to hire the applicants.

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Kaster also stated that she would like to hire Darrik Kessler for the Front Counter and he would also like for him to help with the pool parties.
That will give them three people to rotate.
The board felt if he was an adult that would be fine.
Kaster stated he was a school teacher.

There being no further business, Barada moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

AARON GURLEY, PRESIDENT

PAUL BARADA, VICE PRESIDENT

SUE OTTE, MEMBER

DAVID A. MALSON, MEMBER

WILL ST. JOHN, MEMBER

JAMES ZACHERY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

CARLA SHARPE, SECRETARY