



**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board**

**\*\*\*MINUTES\*\*\***

**April 30, 2018**

**12:00 PM**

**City Hall Council Chamber**

**300 West Cotton Street**

**Members & Staff Present:**

Laci McRee

David Stanton

Scott Caron

Dale Alderman

Bruce Williams

Ray Bostick

Sherry Krueger

Keith Bonds

Emily Zentz

**Members Absent: None**

**I. Call to Order – Invocation & Introduction**

*Laci McRee* calls the meeting to order.

*Emily Zentz* gives the invocation.

**II. Citizen Comments**

*No citizen comments.*

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**a. March 26, 2018**

*Sherry Krueger* makes a motion to approve March minutes.

*Bruce Williams* seconds the motion.

*All Members* are in favor.

*Motion passes* to approve March minutes.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

**a. Recreation Report**

**b. Parks Maintenance Report**

**c. Liaison Report**

**d. Parks and Recreation Director Report**

*Scott Caron* reviews the handouts & reports. Adult Softball registration is up 19%. Swim lesson registration and now offers both a pre-session and post-session class. The splash pads opened 04/02/18. Scott discusses the Pitch, Hit, and Run competition. There were about 25 participants, which is decent since it was the first time The City held the event. Some other areas have that event as well so we will push that again next year and hope to increase participants to 100 kids. Rec Day in the Park! will be held May 5 at Kidsview instead of The Green because of concerns for parking. It is a day where citizens can get out to a park and we can show them different activities and programs and have games going on. We will do that again this fall at another park, probably Broughton Park. Our intent is to bring people out to see our programs and activities, and also to see a park that maybe they have not been to. The bridge on Cargill Long Trail damaged when a tree fell across the bridge in May of 2017 storm damage, has been repaired; an engineering firm was hired to be able to allow for the design and to restore the bridge back to its original weight capacity. The canopies for gate admissions at Lear Softball have been installed so staff can save time every weekend setting up tents at the gate. The extension of Cargill Trail from 4th Street to Akin Park has seen a little movement with less rain delays. Columns have been poured for the shade canopy at

Heritage Plaza and the canopy should be installed this week. Open House for the Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Committee is tomorrow night, May 1. If you are interested in that, there is a 10-day comment period if you are not able to attend the meeting tomorrow night. The sub-committees are meeting at 2:30pm, 3:30pm, and 4:30pm this afternoon. They will be presented with the list of priorities for parks that the Park Advisory Board recommended and approved last month and they will prioritize their projects. The sub-committee for parks is at 4:30pm. Scott reviews the comparison between FY16-17 and 17-18 spending through the first six months of the fiscal year and FY17-18 Budget. We are currently working on budget and will enter budget entry on May 5-25th. Meeting to review budget will begin in June and presented to the Parks Advisory Board at the June before City Council approves it in August.

**V. Park Board Member Comments**

Laci McRee and Scott Caron discuss the use of energy efficient lighting in new construction. The City is working on changing from the metal halide lighting to LED lighting. It has a lot of savings in the operational costs and with more advanced technology; they are not as out of reach costs as they once were. Even though the initial upfront cost will be a little higher, the LED lighting will pay for itself after the savings that can be produced out of the 20-year life span.

Laci McRee and Scott Caron discuss indoor soccer facilities. The City has not looked into having indoor soccer facilities at this point; building a new indoor soccer facility would probably be a public-private partnership and/or being part of a Recreation Center or sports tourism related facility. One item we have looked at with Lear Park is putting artificial turf on two of those soccer fields, which would allow us to play unless it is thundering and lightning.

David Stanton and Scott Caron discuss Wine Tasting event that was held at The Green. It does not generate revenue for The City necessarily, but for the non-profit organization. Any revenues from the facility rental fees are very small.

Bruce Williams and Scott Caron discuss how Panther Park Community Center is underutilized mainly because it is a smaller building with a low capacity. It has not had any rentals in the past two years but this year had nine reservations because a small group was using it for their meetings until they found another location.

David Stanton and Scott Caron discuss the type of cloth used for the stage shade-canopy at Heritage Plaza. It is a fiber like the canopies at the ball fields are made of. The City will take it down in the winter and then put it back up in the spring to help preserve it.

Dale Alderman and Scott Caron discuss TX DOT development and their use of park acreage/ROW easements in the expansion of George Richie Road. The plans are shown on TX DOT's website and impact Panther Park/Community Center; the parking lot is very small and the plans will be taking five of those spots as well as go right up to the fence line by the parking lot. Park Board members agree to move the May meeting to the 21st because the 28th is a city holiday. Appointments for the 2018-2019 Parks Advisory Board will be in June and their first meeting will be in July; the deadline for applications is today.

**VI. Adjourn**

Dale Alderman adjourns the meeting.

**Persons with disabilities, who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aid or services, are requested to contact the City Secretary's Office at 903-237-1080 at least two days before this meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.**