

**MINUTES
CITY OF TAYLOR
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 18, 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
400 PORTER STREET
TAYLOR, TEXAS 76574
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT

Kathleen Eason
Gary Gola
Andrew Gonzales
Jennifer Jewett
Kenny Orts
Stayci Roznovak-Burris
Ginger Schneider

ABSENT

Larry Levy
Davis Morris
Matthew Temple
Lonnie Zycha

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike DeVito, P&R Superintendent
Leisha Morrison, Admin Assist

Call to order and declare a quorum

The meeting was called to order and a quorum declared at 6:07 p.m.

Invocation was given by Committee member Reverend Kathleen Eason.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Citizens Communications

None

REGULAR AGENDA

Approve minutes from the August 18, 2015 meeting

Motion was made by Committee member Kenny Orts to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2015 meeting.

Second by Committee member Kathleen Eason

Vote: All voted aye. Minutes approved.

Update on the Parks Master Plan review

Chairman Gary Gola is working with City Manager to set up a meeting with the City Council. He also stated that the Committee will move forward on updating the Master Plan unless asked otherwise by City Council not to. No action taken on this item.

Conduct public hearing on recreational needs within the City of Taylor

Chairman Gary Gola and Parks Superintendent Mike DeVito opened up the public hearing to the Committee. Committee member Matthew stated he would like to see adult soccer. Committee member Andrew Gonzales stated he would like to see adult volleyball. One of the members thought that the Mormon Church conducted adult volleyball that anyone can participate in. Committee member Kathleen stated she would like to see adult kickball. She also mentioned

bowling. One of the members thought that a bowling alley may be built, by a private company, next to Mr. Gattis. No action taken on this item.

Receive report on Kite Day

Everyone agreed 2015 Kite Day was a huge success. Lots of participation. Committee member Lonnie Zycha stated that his booth had 101 registrants. Parks and Recreation Superintendent Mike DeVito stated that there were 13 vendors and 4 sponsors. Some suggestions for 2016 Kite Day were: reorganizing the judging to have more judges for the larger age group and/or a set of judges for each age group; consider having a “walk on” area; consider having a “tear off” sheet for the participants to let the judges know that they have already been judged. No action taken on this item.

Update on skate park project

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Mike DeVito stated that in the meeting with TXDOT and Union Pacific, both entities stated that they would not allow a skate park on their property located under the Highway 95 overpass. Mr. DeVito and Project Loops Brent Humphreys are looking for alternative temporary skate park sites within the city. He stated Project Loop is still hoping to have the skate park located near the downtown area. Committee member Lonnie Zycha stated the Committee is supportive of having a skate park in the City of Taylor. No action taken on this item.

Discuss Murphy Park egrets

At September 16, 2015 meeting, Mr. Lee Hoy, who is an egret enthusiast, spoke with the committee members that were in attendance – there was no quorum so no action was taken on this item. Parks and Recreation Mike DeVito was asked by the committee to explore a way to neutralize the egret waste on the Murphy park island and surrounding area and water while the birds are away for the winter. Mr. DeVito was also asked to continue working to get grants for the new habitation materials and installation of them. No action taken on this item.

Discuss Disc Golf Course

Committee discussed running concessions at the Taylor Regional Sports Complex to raise funds to install a disc golf course. Parks and Recreation Superintendent Mike DeVito said he would block out dates of tournaments in 2016 so that the committee can run concessions. He said he will have dates to present to the committee at the next meeting date of November 18, 2015. No action taken on this item.

Update on lightning detection

Superintendent Mike DeVito presented information on the newly installed lightning detection system at 6 locations: Taylor Sports Complex, Bull Branch, Murphy Park, Paaseman elementary school, TH Johnson middle school and Taylor high school. No action taken on this item.

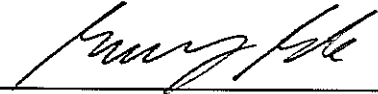
Identify items for next meeting

- Update on Master Plan (Mike DeVito)
- Update on Skate park (Mike DeVito)
- Murphy Park egrets (Mike DeVito)
- Doak ballfield lighting (Mike DeVito)
- Disc golf fundraising efforts (Gary Gola)

Next meeting date:

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 18, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Gary Gola, Chairman



Lonnie Zycha, Vice Chairman