

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ANDERSON
CITY OF PALESTINE**

The Parks Advisory Board met on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 12:00pm in the Parks & Recreation Conference Room, 2000 S Loop 256, Palestine, Texas.

The Following Members Were Present:

John Ballard McDonald Diane Davis
Thelma Holland
Carla Cubstead

Others Present:

Roy Crouch Rob Thames
Heather Hrebec Chuck Conner
Danielle Shultz

Members Not Present:

Sunny Broyles Mike Kelly
Anne Coleman

A quorum of the Parks Advisory Board was present.

CALL TO ORDER

John Ballard McDonald called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Carla, seconded by Thelma, to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2016 meeting as well as the May 3, 2016 meeting. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Discuss and Give Update on the Commemorative Bell Tower Project:

Mr. Steve Sussdorf was scheduled to make a presentation regarding progress on the Commemorative Bell Tower Project, but was unable to attend.

Discuss and Give Final Status Report on the Completion of the Athletic Complex Restroom Renovations and Expansion Project:

Roy announced that a secure storage building has been placed at the Athletic Complex to store baseball equipment. Both the men and women's restrooms have been renovated to include stainless steel sinks, hand blowers and soap dispensers. The men's restroom now has three stalls and a long urinal. The women's restroom now has seven stalls. Pictures of the improved restrooms were included in the packet provided to everyone in attendance.

Discuss Opening Day Attendance at the Steven Bennett Park Municipal Pool

Roy said that the difference in attendance between the YMCA and City Members was 150 people. A 2016 Swimming Pool Schedule as well as the current swimming pool attendance calculations were included in a packet provided to everyone in attendance. Roy stated that the contract between the YMCA and the City of Palestine will be ending in 2018, and a new one will need to be negotiated before then.

Discuss and Give Status Report on the Parks & Recreation Department's Flood / Storm Damages

Roy informed everyone of a devastating flooding that occurred in the City of Palestine April 30th and June 2nd. Many roads, cemeteries, parks and city-owned properties were affected by the disaster. The Parks & Recreation Department is working with the Streets Department to ensure repairs are made. Pictures of many of the damages were included in a packet provided to everyone in attendance.

Discuss 2016 July 4th Fireworks Show Celebration

Heather began by stating that there were many positives and negatives to be said about this year's July 4th Fireworks Show. The show started at 9:45pm. She said that in total it was 17 minutes long. Lone Star Fireworks used a new lead Pyro Technician and that resulted in several mis-fires at the end of the show. There was a lag between the music and the fireworks. There was a concession stand with nine volunteers working it. The profits haven't been counted yet, but she believes it will be less than last year. The crowd was down from last year as well. That is believed to be because the fireworks show was held on a Monday, and many people have to get up early on Tuesday to go to work. She said that overall the event went well.

Discuss Upcoming PYAA State Baseball Tournament Coming to Palestine

Chuck Conner attended the Parks Advisory Board Meeting to discuss the upcoming PYAA State Baseball Tournament scheduled to begin Saturday, July 9, 2016 and ending Monday, July 11, 2016. Chuck stated that a total of 34 teams are scheduled to participate. He said that this baseball tournament is played with a hard ball and a fast pitch. The tournament consists of (2) two divisions: 12 years old and 10 years old, and will be played on (4) four fields.

He also stated that the hotels should be happy because they will be full with families of participants.

He added that he is very happy with the improvements recently made to the Athletic Complex men and women's restrooms.

Director's Report:

- **The Next Parks Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2016!**

The next Parks Advisory Board meeting will be Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at noon in the Parks and Recreation Department Conference Room.

ADJOURN:

Motion Made by Carla and seconded by Thelma to adjourn at 1:08pm.


Danielle Shultz, Administrative Assistant