

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARKS ADVISORY BOARD,
CITY OF PALESTINE, ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2010.

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

The Parks Advisory Board of the City of Palestine, Texas convened in a meeting on Tuesday, September 7, 2010, at 12 p.m., at City Hall, 504 N. Queen Street with the following Board members present:

JOHN B. MCDONALD	CHAIRPERSON
JOE BILL COCHRAN	BOARD MEMBER
THELMA HOLLAND	BOARD MEMBER
HOWARD PIQUET	BOARD MEMBER
CARLA CUBSTEAD	BOARD MEMBER

Also in attendance were:

ROY CROUCH	DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY SERVICES
DALE BROWN	CITY MANAGER
HEATHER HREBEC	EVENT COORDINATOR
KENNETH INGRAM	LT., PALESTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT
DANIEL SCHIEFIELD	CITIZEN

Absent were:

SUE HAMMETT	BOARD MEMBER
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These minutes are being made from a recording and the recording is being maintained on the City's main server.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Parks Board Chairperson John McDonald.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by John McDonald and seconded by Board Member, Howard Piquet to approve the minutes as presented from the August 3, 2010 meeting.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Dale Brown, City Manager, gave a brief overview of the Heritage Park Plan. Mr. Brown stated that city council asked for a developmental plan for the property around the Visitors Center. Mr. Brown stated he asked the engineering department to come up with a preliminary plan that would enhance the one way traffic in the area and tie the Visitor Center to the down town area. Mr. Brown explained the city applied for a grant three years ago to develop a trolley system that would take visitors to the downtown area from the Visitors Center, but the grant was not awarded. He said the city has already purchased some of the property in the area and plans to continue to purchase property in the future.

Roy Crouch, Director of Community Services, stated the city was awarded the \$75,000.00 Texas Parks and Wildlife Grant for Reagan Park spray ground project. Mr. Crouch stated the city has \$60,000.00 in reserve for the project and the total cost is approximately \$260,000.00. Mr. Crouch stated that the Palestine Junior Service League will be at the October meeting to discuss efforts for the additional funding of the spray park project.

Lt. Kenneth Ingram, Palestine Police Department, gave a report on police activity at Reagan Park. Lt. Ingram went over the various types of calls received for Reagan Park. He explained that the number of calls for Reagan Park is down the year compared to last year. Board Member Piquet stated the police car used on the weekends has made a significant difference in the park. Mr. Crouch stated the curfew for the park is 10:00p.m., and 11p.m. for the tennis courts. He asked board members to contact the police department if they notice unusual activity.

Mr. Crouch reported to the board that the skate park has been temporarily closed until the board decides how to proceed. He stated the area is dangerous and the initial supplies used in the development of the skate park were not the proper ones for an outdoor park. He provided pictures of areas considered hazardous and unusable. Mr. Crouch then introduced Danielle Sheffield, a local skater, to the board. Mr. Sheffield stated there are several people in the community who use the skate park. He said that it would not be in the interest of the community to loose the skate park. He said that the structure is sound and would just need to be replaced with masonite, which is the recommended surface for out door skate parks. Board Member Piquet asked Mr. Crouch how much it would take to repair as a temporary solution and Mr. Crouch stated approximately \$5,000.00. Mr. Sheffield then suggested using the smaller components of the large area to lower the cost. Board Member Cochran asked Mr. Sheffield how many "skaters" use the park and Mr. Sheffield stated as many as 30. Chairperson McDonald made the motion and seconded by Board Member Piquet that the skate park stay closed and defer to Mr. Crouch for a solution on the repair of the skate park.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Joe McDonald and seconded by Carla Cubstead. Meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

John B. McDonald
Chairperson – Park Advisory Board

Heather Hrebec
Event Coordinator