

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

The Parks Advisory Board met on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 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	Anne Coleman
Mike Kelly	

**Others Present:**

Roy Crouch  
Rob Thames  
Danielle Shultz

**Members Not Present:**

Carla Cubstead	Eric Musil
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A quorum of the Parks Advisory Board was present.

**CALL TO ORDER**

John Ballard McDonald called the meeting to order at 12:05pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Motion was made by Anne, seconded by Mike, to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2015 meeting as well as the minutes of the Special Meeting held May 15, 2015.* Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

**ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**Discuss and Give Report on the Opening Memorial Day Weekend at the Steven Bennett Park Municipal Swimming Pool**

Roy discussed the email that he sent to Cindy Piersol (the President / CEO of the YMCA) in detail regarding the specific information the Parks Advisory Board is requesting from her / the YMCA on a monthly basis concerning pool activity and usage. He included in the email that he wants the following information / numbers updated for him to present to the Parks Advisory Board meetings each month: the total number of people who attend monthly during Public Swim Hours, Y Family Swim Hours, Lap Swim, Swim Team, Water Aerobics, Day Camp, and Swim Lessons. He wants each category to be separated into total numbers of "Y Members" and "City Participants". John said that we need to be sure that we get exact numbers of people, and not numbers of passes because each pass could have multiple participants. Roy said that he would get with Cindy Piersol to reassure that this information is collected correctly. Roy pointed out that Danielle collected the pool pass applications completed at City Hall and

created a spreadsheet to show the names, number of participants, and continued to add all of the passes for a final number for the month of May. He explained the summary at the end of the spreadsheet for May documented that while May, 2014 had 125 applications and May 2015 had 67 applications, applications were taken much sooner last year than this year. The average number of applications per day for May, 2014 was 4.8, while this May is 12.5. That is a huge difference! Roy explained that we still have more marketing material to distribute to help advertise the availability of free pool passes for City of Palestine residents. Roy continued to explain that a Pool Usage Chart from Cindy Piersol had also been added to everyone's packets. It shows the usage for Memorial Day Weekend. The numbers are low, but that could be because of the weather or cold water. The swim times for Memorial Day Weekend were also shortened. Roy concluded by saying that the YMCA has a total of 3,300 members, but only 8 showed up for the "Y Family Swim" time.

#### **Discuss and Give Status Report on the Up-Coming City-Wide Community Garage Sale**

Heather Hrebec was scheduled to attend today's Parks Advisory Board meeting to give the status report on the up-coming City-Wide Community Yard Sale, but she was unable to attend. Roy said that this event has been rescheduled from May 9, 2015 to June 20, 2015 due to forecasted stormy weather and lack of participation. We are looking for vendors and shoppers for this event to be a success. Anne asked what the price for a space is, and Roy responded that it is \$25 and includes (2) two parking lot spaces. This event will be from 8am – 2pm. All proceeds from the City-Wide Community Yard Sale go to the 2015 Hot Pepper Festival.

#### **Discuss the Up-Coming 4<sup>th</sup> of July Special Event**

Heather Hrebec was scheduled to attend today's Parks Advisory Board meeting to give the status report for the up-coming July 4<sup>th</sup> Special Event, but she was unable to attend. The Hot Pepper Festival Executive Committee and volunteers will run concession stands and sell fluorescent necklaces and glow-in-the-dark toys. All money received will go to the 2015 Hot Pepper Festival. Diane Davis added that the COP (Citizens on Patrol) will not be running a concession stand as they did in the past. Roy said that the YMCA may have concessions on their property. Diane said that the Christ Community Church may give away free hot dogs and drinks on their parking lot. Roy said that he would love to see this event increase in size in the future by possibly having a full blown festival, but we don't have enough room where we are currently located. Anne suggested having the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event at the Balloon Base, and Roy agreed that he may look into that option in the future.

#### **Discuss Landscape Beautification Project at Reagan Park**

Roy is trying to get the Landscape Beautification Project at Reagan Park finished up. Weather has slowed down the progress on this development. Stone Ridge Landscaping is also trying to finish other projects that they have. This area needs to be dry for them to come in with boulders and hydromulch to avoid making ruts and tearing up the ground with trucks / machinery. Trees also need to be trimmed, and some plants need to be replaced due to being crushed from the recent storms. Roy hopes that this project will be complete before the next Parks Advisory Board meeting scheduled for July 7, 2015.

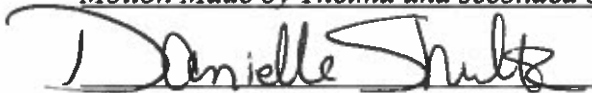
**Director's Report**

1. Movies in the Park: Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> (Third Finger, Left Hand – 1940 romantic comedy starring Myrna Loy, Melvyn Douglas, and Raymond Walburn – Reagan Park)
2. Movies in the Park: Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 9pm (Disney's Sky High – Reagan Park) – Sponsored by the Library and the Parks & Recreation Department – Target audience is the kids!
3. Veteran's Membership Drive: Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm (Reagan Park) – Anne spoke up and said that this event has been canceled.
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual United Way Learning Festival: Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> (Palestine Mall – 11am-3pm) – Sponsored by the Library and the Parks & Recreation Department – Come dressed as your favorite superhero!
5. Adrian Peterson Day: Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> (Reagan Park)
6. YMCA Co-Ed Softball Program: Tuesdays & Thursdays (Mitchell-Campbell Field)
7. Splash Park Season Begins: Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am – 8pm (Reagan Park)
8. Delman Circus: Tentative dates June 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> (Palestine Mall) – Currently vetting them to make sure they are a good fit for Palestine.
9. Parks & Recreation Budget Process: Roy finished his 6 budgets for this year, and will soon be meeting with Wendy and City Council.
10. Carnegie Library Up-Coming Projects: Roy is looking at new gutters and downspouts, painting, soffits, and replacement of corbel on the back side.
11. City Warehouse Up-Coming Project: Needing a gutter on the maintenance building and roll-up door replaced. Also looking at a push-button security gate.
12. Storm Damages / Down Trees: Few trees are down around Reagan Park as well as a large one at City Cemetery. Rob Thames and the Parks employees helped with the Street Department to resolve this issue.

**The next Parks Advisory Board meeting will be July 7, 2015 at noon in the Parks and Recreation Department Conference Room.**

**ADJOURN**

*Motion Made by Thelma and seconded by Anne to adjourn at 12:41pm.*

  
Danielle Shultz