

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF ANDERSON
CITY OF PALESTINE

The Parks Advisory Board met in regular session on Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 12:00 p.m. in the City Hall conference Room, 504 North Queen Street, Palestine, TX with the following members present:

John McDonald
Thelma Holland

Mike Kelly
Eric Musil

Others present:

Roy Crouch
Rob Thames
Danielle Shultz

Heather Hrebec
Rachel Menjivar

A quorum of the Parks Advisory Board was present.

CALL TO ORDER

John McDonald called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Eric Musil, seconded by John McDonald, to approve the minutes of November 5, 2013 meeting. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Introduction of Danielle Shultz, Administrative Assistant for Parks and Recreation

Roy Crouch, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced Danielle Shultz to the Parks Board.

Report on Mall-O-Ween 2013

Rachel Menjivar, with the Palestine Public Library, gave an update on the Mall-O-Ween event held at the Palestine Mall on October 31, 2013. She stated approximately 3,900 people attended the event. Menjivar said over 20 local businesses participated and many were still calling asking to participate the day of the event. She some of the events included a cake walk, costume contest, and a contest among the businesses to see who was the most decorated. Menjivar said it was a great event and they are looking forward to next year.

Report on Hot Pepper Festival 2013

Crouch gave an overview of the Hot Pepper Festival presentation that was given to City Council. He said Council was happy with the festival and the committee will start meeting in March to begin work on this years' festival.

Report on department Christmas Programs

Heather Hrebec, Event Coordinator, gave a report on Breakfast with Santa and the Christmas Parade of Lights. She stated that approximately 200 people attended Breakfast with Santa. Hrebec stated that due to the weather the outdoor activities were cancelled and a carnival game area was added. Hrebec stated the Christmas Parade normally takes place the same day as Breakfast with Santa, but was moved to the next weekend due to concerns with the weather. She said participation was down due to the change of the date and the weather. She said there was approximately 34 participants in the parade and only a few people stayed after the parade. Hrebec said Cream and Coffee set up at the Santa Station and sold hot chocolate and hot apple cider to those that stayed.

Crouch gave a report on Santa on Main St. which took place the third weekend in December. He said the event consisted of Reindeer on display, a DJ, Camp Cookie, and Santa's Magical Sandbox. Crouch explained the sandbox held ornaments that could be redeemed for prizes. He said in addition to the event, the Chamber of Commerce had their snow hill for sliding open at the same time.

Eric Musil, Board Member, asked about the ice skating rink. Crouch said the rink was open all three weekends with the first weekend having the largest attendance. John B. McDonald, Board Chairman asked where the money from skating went and Crouch explained it was split with the different entities that worked different weekends.

Board Chairman to discuss Steven Bennett Park Signage

McDonald stated the signage currently up at Steven Bennett Park was not worthy of a war hero. He said the signage at the park needs to be replaced. McDonald said he met with Crouch and he believes the sign will cost between \$35,000 and \$40,000. McDonald said he is working with the Cain Group on a grant and he believes the additional funds can be raised. Crouch said he is contacting sign companies to get preliminary drawings.

DIRECTORS REVIEW

Crouch said the Parks and Recreation Department has been very busy and the additional of Danielle is going to be a huge help. He advised the board of projects and activities that are currently in the works.

ADJOURN

Motion Made by Eric Musil and seconded by John McDonald to adjourn at 1:12 p.m.

Heather Hrebec, Event Coordinator