

**MINUTES
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
JULY 24, 2019**

The Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at the Owens Multipurpose Center, 1405 SW 11th St, Lawton, Oklahoma and called to order by Chairman Ross Hankins, at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ross Hankins, Jason Wells, Susan Thompson, Sherene Williams William Copeland, Larry Craig, Anthony Cox, and Wayne Willis.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Brierton, Anthony Cox, Jacobi Crowley, Wayne Willis.

STAFF PRESENT: Reginald Seaton, Recreation Services Administrator; Jeanie Wheeler, Recording Secretary; Jerry Thorne, Sports Supervisor, and Shane Huck, Sports Supervisor.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jason Davis.

Minutes were presented and approved for the Regular Called Meeting of April 24, 2019.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Jason Davis representing the Lawton Firefighters Association presented a proposal to further enhance the 3rd Street entrance at Elmer Thomas Park where the association has already sponsored for the last 8 to 10 years with a suggestion of adding crepe myrtle bushes to the already established landscaping.

Seaton recommended that a layout for the landscape enhancement be brought to the Parks and Recreation Director and then he will bring it back to the Parks and Recreation Commission for endorsement.

1. CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF NECESSARY, FOR ANY CHANGES TO THE 2019-2020 YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL PROGRAM.

Hankins introduced this item for discussion and request for consideration. He asked staff to present the background for this item.

Seaton informed the Parks Commission that a recommendation had been received by staff for consideration of the eighth grade division to play full court and staff decided to this item until further notice. He added that at this time there were no further recommendation for the Youth Basketball Rules since the Commission last met and voted.

NO FURTHER ACTION WAS TAKEN.

2. REVIEW AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF FOR DIRECTION FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS RESPECTIVE WARDS (DIRECTOR IS ASKING CONCERNING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUNDS THAT ARE ALREADY EARMARKED FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND WOULD LIKE A LIST FROM THE COMMISSIONERS AS RECOMMENDATIONS).

Hankins asked staff to elaborate for the Commissioners for further consideration.

Seaton stated the main focus would be to bring back a list from this Board of Commissioners for park improvements for each of their wards so that staff could combine the list for prioritization and endorsement of the Commission for future park improvements.

Copeland noted that the new Thunder Court at Lee West Park is trashed on a daily basis.

Williams stated the Lemuel Harkey Park is in bad need for sidewalks.

Hankins stated the basketball court at Harold Park needs repair and updated.

There was continued discussion concerning a myriad of park improvements especially in neighborhood park areas. It was the consensus of the Commission that all Commissioners would review the needs in their own wards and send an email to the Director for further evaluation of combined park improvement needs.

NO FURTHER ACTION WAS TAKEN.

A. Leisure Services Activity Report. (Reginald Seaton, Leisure Services Administrator).

Seaton reported that registration for Youth Football, Flag Football, Volleyball and Adult Softball registration will begin August 5th. Late Registration will be August 28 – 30th.

Seaton added that 52,839 attendees for the splash pads were tracked with 47,309 at the Elmer Thomas Park Splash Pad for the summer season. Also new shade structures will be placed at Eastside and Grand View parks.

He added that a new council item will go on the August City Council agenda to increase the sports officials fees for officiating Youth Football and Baseball/Softball to 30.00 per game as endorsed by the Commission which will help in retaining officials for officiating youth games.

Other items reported were about the 12 new scoreboards in the last budget and a new scoreboard for the Patterson Center will be purchased and a new kiln for ceramics has also been purchased and will be installed at the Patterson Center.

B. Parks and Recreation Director's report. (None at this time)

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION/ADJOURNMENT

Jason Wells recommended use of the Adopt a Park program to perhaps help police the park areas.

Seaton noted that the groups that establish the Adopt a Park agreement agree on a certain form their participation and type of policing of the parks and it is done thru the Parks and Grounds Division and signed off by the Parks and Grounds Superintendent.

There was no other discussion and the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED
ROSS HANKINS, CHAIRMAN
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION