

**MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MARCH 16, 2022**

The Special Called Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held Wednesday, March 16th, 2022, at the Owens Multipurpose Center, 1405 SW 11th St, Lawton, Oklahoma and called to order by Acting Chairperson Sherene Williams at 5:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jacobi Crowley, Susan Thompson, Sherene Williams, Jason Scott, Anthony Cox, Brian Henry

MEMBERS ABSENT: Terry Brierton, Angela Rivera, Jason Wells

STAFF PRESENT: Christine James, Parks & Recreation Director; Keith Neitzke, Recreation Services Administrator; Antonio Hopson, Parks & Grounds Superintendent; Kim Starnes, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Dwayne Burk, Deputy City Manager; Eric Swanson, Robert Fogle, William Miller, Jessica Musselman, Dee Ann Patterson

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Lawton Soccer Club, William Miller and Robert Fogel, introduced themselves. Jessica Musselman introduced herself and expressed that there isn't much focus from the Rec Centers for the pre-teen and teen ages. She offered ideas such as chaperoned lock-ins, dances, and movie nights.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON THE NEWLY CREATED LAWTON YOUTH SPORTS AUTHORITY TRUST AND DUTIES MOVING FORWARD AS THEY EFFECT THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION.

This item was presented by Brian Henry. He stated Edmond, OK and Norman, OK have been doing a Youth Sports Authority for 20 years and it has been working for them. The authority will take over scheduling of games and practices as well as promotion and maintenance of grounds. The authority is made up of nine members, including two council members and the President of the Lawton-Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce. Every year, the authority will report to council on progress made.

2. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE LAWTON YOUTH SPORTS COMPLEX.

This item was presented by Dewayne Burk. The development of Sports Complex has slowed but it is still on the table for development.

3. RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM STAFF ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE

RECREATION CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION, DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO STAFF AS NECESSARY.

This item was presented by Christine James to change hours of operation for the recreation centers to open and close later in the day.

Discussion followed.

Brian Henry clarified if one of her suggestions would be for Commission to take this topic to Council so the Director and Administrators could make the changes without all the formalities after seeing the slowest and busiest times in each center.

MOTION by Anthony Cox; SECOND by Jason Scott for the Commission to take this item to Council for approval.

AYES: Jacobi Crowley, Susan Hargreaves Thompson, Sherene Williams, Brian Henry, Jason Scott, Anthony Cox.

NAYS: none. MOTION CARRIED.

4. DISCUSS AND MAKE A RECOMMENDATION TO STAFF ON THE TYPES OF PROGRAMING THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD LIKE TO SEE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT THE PUBLIC RECREATION CENTERS.

This item was presented by Christine James.

Sherene Williams acknowledged Jessica Musselman's ideas and were in favor of them.

Jessica Musselman added cooking classes to the list.

Jacobi Crowley mentioned schools bussing children to the centers for after-school programs.

Brian Henry brought up a STEM class.

The subject of advertising all activities also came up.

Jacobi Crowley mentioned online avenues.

Sherene Williams brought up having weekly interviews with a different Commission member and a child to present the coming week's activities.

MOTION by Anthony Cox; SECOND by Jason Scott to approving all ideas.

AYES: Jacobi Crowley, Susan Hargreaves Thompson, Sherene Williams, Jason Scott, Anthony Cox, Brian Henry.

NAYS: none. MOTION CARRIED.

There was no further discussion, and a motion was made to adjourn.

MOTION by Anthony Cox; SECOND by Jason Scott to Adjourn.

AYES: Jacobi Crowley, Susan Hargreaves Thompson, Sherene Williams, Jason Scott, Anthony Cox, Brian Henry.

NAYS: none. MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED,
SHERENE WILLIAMS, ACTING CHAIRPERSON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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