

**MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2018; 6:00 p.m.**

The Special Called Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held Monday, May 23, 2018, at the Owens Multi-Purpose Center, 1405 SW 11th St, Lawton, Oklahoma and called to order by Chairman Ross Hankins at 6:05 p.m.

ROLLCALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ross Hankins, Terry Brierton, Jacobi Crowley, Susan Thompson, Sherene Williams (entered 6:10 pm), Anthony Cox and Larry Craig.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Angela Bolds, Pam Garrett, and David Madigan.

STAFF PRESENT: Jack Hanna, Parks and Recreation Director, Reginald Seaton, Recreation Services Administrator; Jeanie Wheeler, Recording Secretary; Jerry Thorne, Sports Supervisor and Larry Huck Sports Supervisor.

OTHERS PRESENT: None

NO MINUTES WERE CONSIDERED AT THIS TIME.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

**1. CONSIDER ENDORSING A RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL
REFERENCE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS TO SERVE ON THE PARKS AND
RECREATION COMMISSION. (CITY OF LAWTON CITY CODE CHAPTER 2-3-10-
367.**

Hanna explained the process for adding two mayoral appointments for Commissioners that would serve from communities, i.e., (Cache, Elgin, Indianhoma, etc) making the Parks and Recreation Commission have 13 commissioners providing a broader base of participation to the Commission and representing areas that already participate outside the City limits in our leagues.

Brierton asked about how much participation was actually involved.

Seaton answered that every year there are three to four out of city limit teams that participate in all the sports leagues provided.

Thompson stated her positive endorsement of changing this policy in the City Code.

Brierton also supported that surrounding communities such as Elgin, Cache, Walters should be invited to participate in the City of Lawton Youth Sports leagues broadening the scope for youth participation and adult leaders to be part of the decisions made.

MOTION by Brierton; SECOND by Cox. MOTION CARRIED AND APPROVED by unanimous vote of all Commissioners present - (Hankins, Brierton, Crowley, Thompson, Cox, and Craig) to endorse recommendation to city council reference residency requirements to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission. (City of Lawton City Code Chapter 2-3-10-367.

2. CONSIDER CHANGING REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING TIME TO 5:00 PM COMMENCING JULY 25, 2018 MEETING AND KEEPING THE MEETING TIME FOR ALL FUTURE MEETINGS AT 5:00 PM. (PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR)

Hankins introduced this item and ask for discussion among the Commissioners.

Crowley said it would be cutting it close for practices after school.

Brierton also said it could prove to be harder for Commissioners to be here right at 5:00 p.m.

Wheeler explained the Director's reasoning as first it would give continuity after work to go straight into the meeting, cutting down on the overtime involved for employees involved, and it would get everyone home quicker after the meeting.

There was continued discussion concerning this issue among the Commissioners and then it became the consensus of the Commission to support trying the new time to see if it may bring a better quorum for attendance.

MOTION by Brierton, SECOND by Crowley to approve changing the meeting time of the Parks and Recreation Commission from the normal 6:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to begin at the Special Called Meeting that would scheduled for placements the day after Labor Day as recommended by Seaton. MOTION CARRIED and was approved by unanimous vote of the Commissioners present (Hankins, Brierton, Crowley, Thompson, Williams, Cox and Craig).

3. CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION, IF NECESSARY, FOR ANY CHANGES TO THE YOUTH SPORTS BASKETBALL RULES FOR 2018-2019 SEASON.

Hankins introduced this item for consideration and discussion.

Seaton informed that they have been receiving requests from surrounding towns that would help build the team numbers and league status. He also stated that registration would begin end of October and go thru December 1st. Approving the rules presently would allow the needed time to get the rulebooks in place sooner and establish teams from Elgin, Chattanooga, and Geronimo. He also added that had no changes to recommend from last year's rules.

Hankins ask if there was any more discussion.

Cox expressed that last year's rules seemed just fine only recommendation was that younger players play earlier on the schedules.

MOTION by Brierton; SECOND by Cox to keep the 2018-2019 Youth Sports Basketball Rules the same as was done in the prior year. MOTION CARRIED and was approved by unanimous vote of the Commissioners present (Hankins, Brierton, Crowley, Thompson, Williams, Cox and Craig).

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE:

- A. Parks and Recreation Director Report. (Jack Hanna, Parks and Recreation Director) – None.
- B. Leisure Services Report (Reginald Seaton, Leisure Services Administrator).
Seaton reported that City Council endorsed an Art Show that would put on by the seniors at the Patterson Center and the BOD Highrise and the proceeds be used for equipment for the Senior Centers.
- C. Updated Parks and Recreation Commission List.

COMMENTS/DISCUSSION/ADJOURNMENT:

Williams asked questions about the usage of the park next to the High Rise. Seaton advised that the park there was part of the B.O. Davis Housing complex not part of the City parks.

Hankins asked about Hidden Park in Ward 1. It was explained that the easement of the park is the responsibility of the City.

Crowley asked about the new Thunder Core project for the City of Lawton to refurbish basketball courts in Lawton. Seaton stated the three parks associated with refurbishment would be OH Arnold Park, Prairie Park and Lee West Park. The plans for these parks would be started with approval this summer.

Thompson expressed her concerns of the Parks and Recreation budget cuts when there was a hard need for our children to have something to do. Seaton explained that the Department took a deep cut within losing an administrative position this time.

Cox asked how you are expected to man the Department with such cuts. Seaton answered staff duties have been moved around to maintain the level of service needed.

Hankins asked how ball field maintenance was going. Seaton answered at the present the ball fields are being maintained to expectations.

Thompson asked about how playoffs were being developed. Seaton answered stated with overtime budget cut that the top two teams in each league go to playoffs instead of all teams to the playoffs.

Thompson asked about the Adopt-A-Park program. Seaton explained that there is an agreement done with Parks and Grounds and a check list that is agreed to be done as to the level of taking care of the park would be.

Cox asked what if the people adopting the park do not do their part. Seaton answered then what is not done by a group the Parks and Grounds Division checks on it and keeps it up with as a part of the regular mowing schedule.

There was no other discussion and **MOTION by Williams; SECOND by Brierton to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED and approved unanimously by the Commissioners present to adjourn (Hankins, Brierton, Crowley, Thompson, Williams, Cox and Craig).**

**RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:
ROSS HANKINS, CHAIRMAN
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**