

Minutes
PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Regular Meeting
City Hall, 411 W. Arapaho Rd.
City Manager's Conference Room, 202
April 12, 2016
6:00 PM

Members Absent: Jim Bailey

PARC Staff in attendance: Lori Smeby, Roger Scott, Yvonne Falgout, Sarah Patton, Dan Baker, Serri Ayers

Attending Commission Members:

Jeremy Thomason – Chairman
Susan Fischer - Member
Victor Garza - Member
Jeanne Hooker - Member

Gene Fitch, Jr. - Vice Chairman
Pam Krause - Member
Kevin Williams - Member

Visitors: No visitors

1. Chairman Jeremy Thomason declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Chairman Jeremy Thomason acknowledged that there would be visitors in attendance.
3. On a motion from member Jeanne Hooker and seconded by member Pam Krause, the minutes from the March 15, 2016 regular meeting were approved.
4. Chairman's Report
 - Chairman Jeremy Thomason briefly shared about the summer tour that will focus on aquatics facilities throughout Richardson. The tour is set to take place in June, and more details will be available soon.
 - Parks and Recreation Commission members discussed recent visits Woods Park, Prairie Creek Park, Duck Creek Park, and the Richardson Gymnastics Center. Members commented on the popularity of Prairie Creek Park and expressed the desire to see the park continuously taken care of all visitors.
 - Chairman Jeremy Thomason recognized three visitors that were in attendance from Richland College as part of a government class that required the observation of a public meeting. The Parks and Recreation Commission warmly welcomed the students and Mr. Thomason briefly shared about the advisory duties of the commission.
5. April 15th Priority List
 - Chairman Jeremy Thomason led the Parks and Recreation Commission members in a discussion to finalize the April 15th Priority List. Members analyzed each section and made

some minor adjustments to the draft. Mr. Thomason will make final edits to the document and have the list submitted by Friday, April 15th.

6. Parks Maintenance Presentation

- Parks Superintendent Dan Baker gave a presentation about the staff and work duties of the maintenance division of the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Baker shared about the history of the maintenance division and its involvement over the years. Maintenance staff is involved not only with park beautification but also with festivals, special events, and maintenance of other public lands.

7. Festival Update

- Community Events Superintendent Serri Ayers gave an overview of the upcoming Cottonwood Art Festival taking place May 7-8. The featured artist this year is Kristin Desantis, a contemporary metal and mixed media artist. Mrs. Ayers also shared about the 2016 Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival, which will take place May 20-22. Headlining artists include Jimmie Vaughan, Dennis DeYoung & the Music of Styx, John Waite, Peter Frampton, Survivor, The Guess Who, and many more.

8. Parks & Recreation Director's Report

A) Bond Update FY2016

- Director Lori Smeby stated that the Spring Creek Nature Area trail is still in the process of being surveyed. Once this step is complete, designs will be made and the project will be able to move forward.

B) Capital Projects Update FY2016

- Assistant Director Roger Scott updated the Parks and Recreation Commission on the status of the new fencing being installed at Heights Park. The contractor has begun construction but is waiting for more concrete to be made available before the project can continue. The playground at Lookout Park has been completed and has received positive feedback from the community. Member Victor Garza commented on the popularity and positive reception of the playground as well. The trail system around the park has been poured and new trees were planted as well. The overall project should be complete by the fall.

C) Aquatics Study Overview

- Director Lori Smeby informed members that the time has come to conduct an overall study of the four neighborhood pools throughout Richardson: Canyon Creek, Glenville, Cottonwood, and Terrace. Mrs. Smeby expressed the importance of cherishing the history of the pools, as well as the importance of maintaining safety standards. A consultant will be assisting with conducting the assessment of the pools and public input meetings will be held.
- As a follow up to the February regular meeting, Director Lori Smeby shared that the Aquatics division has made the decision to allow pool rentals only on Saturday mornings,

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Saturday evenings, and Sunday mornings. Operation hours will remain the same, and staff will closely monitor the occupancy levels in the evenings to inform decisions in the future.

- Assistant Director Yvonne Falgout gave an update on current staffing needs in the aquatics division heading into the summer. Staff is actively hiring lifeguards and water safety instructors to fulfill summer positions.

9. Parks & Recreation Commission round table of community interest items

- Members had no items to discuss.

10. Department Calendar Items

11. Adjourn

- Pending no further business, Chairman Jeremy Thomason declared the meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Sarah Patton, City of Richardson Parks & Recreation Department

Minutes approved at the June 14, 2016 regular meeting:
