

Cameron Park Board Meeting

June 23, 2011

6:00 pm

Cameron City Hall

Members Present:

Chairman Bill Gimson
Al Briggs
Rob Balliett
Jennifer Helmich
Matthew Archibald

Members Absent:

Matt Jameson
J. Alan Lovejoy
Krista Helton

Others Attending:

Drew Bontrager, Public Works Director
Steve Garr, Parks Director
David Fry, City Council Member

Chris Johnson, Cameron Citizen Observer
Frank Buck, City Council Member

Chairman Gimson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Approval of January Minutes

Mr. Balliett made a motion to approve minutes of the May 19, 2011 meeting; seconded by Mrs. Briggs. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.

Public Participation

Frank Buck, Mayor and City Council Member, addressed the Board and thanked everyone for taking the time to serve on the Park Board. Mr. Buck also reminded the Board of the absentee policy and stated that it is important to attend meetings or resign from the Board.

Treasury Report

No Comment

Director/Foreman Report

Steve Garr stated that a lot of work was done on the Air Show by the Park's staff and that everything went well. He also stated that the Park's Staff is staying busy.

Baseball Fields

Chairman Gimson asked if Field 2 would always be *hard* under the surface.

Mr. Garr stated that the field will eventually soften up in time. Mr. Garr also stated that the field was set-up that way so if there was a hard rain the field would dry up quickly and be available for a game.

Swimming Pool

The swimming pool opened up Memorial Day weekend to the public. Mr. Garr stated that concrete patch work was completed prior to opening. He also stated that the leak was fixed and is currently holding. Standard maintenance is being completed on the pool as the season continues.

Mr. Balliett asked about the number of chairs at the swimming pool and mentioned that he had heard there was a shortage

Mr. Garr stated that more chairs had been damaged last year than previously noted and that more chairs have been ordered.

Chairman Gimson asked if it would be possible for the public to bring their personal chairs into the swimming pool.

Mr. Garr stated that swimming pool management, Mary Jo Eiberger, would have to make that call.

Mr. Bontrager stated that the paint on the pool was touched-up at the beginning of the season; however, there has been some minor chipping of the paint. Mr. Bontrager has been in contact with Back Yard Pools about the chipped paint. The warranty on the paint job is still valid and they will return in the fall/early spring and touch-up the flaked-off areas.

Skate Park

The Skate Park has seen increased usage over the past week. No damage has been reported.

Old Business

Board Member Appointments

There are currently three spots open on the Park Board. Members of the Park Board are allowed to serve as long as they are willing to serve or until the Mayor removes them.

The Board discussed appointing members to the Board. The open positions will be advertised in the Cameron Newspaper and Shopper for 2 weeks, starting the week of July 5, 2011. The deadline for applications will be July 22, 2011. The Board would like to have the applications, resumes, etc for the next scheduled Park Board meeting so they can review the applicants and submit a recommendation to the City Council.

Current board members who are up for re-appointment were asked to submit a letter stating they would like to continue serving for another term.

Mrs. Briggs moved to accept the dates for appointment to the Park Board. Ms. Helmich seconded. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.

Frisbee Golf

Mr. Garr stated that after research, he has found that there are many different makes and models of Frisbee Golf. The cost is approximately \$257 per basket. The equipment is known to hold-up well and is easy to take care of.

The game of Frisbee Golf is similar to regular golf and can be a 9 or 18-hole course. The tentative plan is to build the course around Recreation Park. There will be a combination of holes containing par 3, 4, and 5 holes.

Mr. Garr stated that there are signs available for hole sponsors that cost approximately \$105 per sign. Mr. Garr would like to have at least one hole sponsor, the Rotary Club, to start out with and possibly add other sponsors at a later date.

It was suggested that official tee boxes be added at a later date to save money.

The Board voiced concerns about the amount of space in Recreation Park. It was suggested that a few holes be eliminated to reduce the congestion in the park.

Since Recreation Park is next to the school, it is hoped that the school can incorporate Frisbee Golf into the physical education curriculum.

The Rotary Club needs to have input in the layout of the course since they are making a generous donation.

The discussion on Frisbee Golf has been tabled until the layout and other ideas have been discussed with the Rotary Club.

New Business

Mr. Bontrager presented the proposed budget for the coming year. It was reported that the revenues from real estate and personal property taxes have stayed consistent from the previous year. The pool fund expense has decreased because of the contract with the YMCA and an increase in revenues. The general park expenses have also stayed within last year's budget.

The resurfacing of the tennis courts was discussed and it was estimated that it would cost an approximately \$18,000 per court. Chairman Gimson stated that the last time the courts were resurfaced was in 1999.

Chairman Gimson stated that there is a 50/50 agreement between the school district and the City for repairs and maintenance on the upper tennis courts and the basketball courts.

The current agreement between the school and the City will be researched.

The irrigation project for the soccer fields had been slowed down for review at City Hall. Chairman Gimson stated that he would like to go ahead a request bids for the irrigation project.

Mr. Bontrager stated that it is difficult for the Parks Department to maintain Earl Park; it has a very unfinished look, and was targeted as a project this past year. It was suggested that memorial bricks could be sold and added to the park.

Three projects were chosen for capital improvements for the coming year:

1. Resurface the tennis courts
2. Finish Earl Park
3. Additional Park Ground

Chairman Gimson entertained a motion to accept the preliminary budget and pursue the capital improvement projects discussed. Mr. Balliett made the motion; seconded by Ms. Helmich. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.

Adjourn

Chairman Gimson entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Mrs. Briggs and seconded by Ms. Helmich. On voice vote the motion carries as follows: ayes – 5, nays – 0, abstentions – 0, absent – 3.

Next meeting of the Park Board will be July 28, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:13 pm.

Minutes submitted by:
Chris O'Donnell