



MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 4, 2005
6:00 p.m.
Memorial Park Senior Center
1800 Byron Street

Members Present

Bernie Sargent, Chairman
Eileen Karlsruher
Alice Davis
Alma Wilson
Daniel Delahaye
Kelly Duke
Salvador Quintanilla
Walt Phillips
Jose Luis Gutierrez
Sal Quintanilla
Alejandro Sanchez
Yolanda Cordova
Olga Holguin
Henry Stokes
Mitch Doblado
Julio Norman

Members Absent

Charlotte Johnson
Cherilyn Dorsey

Staff Present

Dr. Norman C. Merrifield
Barry Russell
Linda Martin
Lucy Martinez
Joe Rodriguez
Pete Dunavant
Paula Powell

Others Present:

Matt Watson, City Attorney
Juan Contreras, P+3

1. **Meeting called to order** by Chairman, Bernie Sargent at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Motion to approve minutes of August 2, 2005; Motion made by Walt Phillips, seconded by Sal Quintanilla; all in favor; motion passed unanimously.**
3. **Petitions & Communicatons from the Public Sector: None Given**
4. **Recognition and Award for Rosie Martinez, Aquatics Life Guard:** Ms. Rosie Martinez was recognized for saving a life while on duty as a lifeguard at Parks and Recreation's Delta pool. Ms. Martinez credits her training to the Red Cross and El Paso Aquatic.
5. **Recognition and Certificate: Joe W. Cadwell and George D. Stout, Outstanding Volunteers. Item Postponed**
6. **Discussion and Information: Sherman Park Neighborhood Community with Concerns about Sherman Park Improvements.** Mr. Alfredo Flores stated that issues include no facilities available, very small playground equipment, lighting and the main issue according to both Mr. Alfredo Flores and Mr. Rudy Hees is the proposal for a new half court basketball court instead of a full court. The community would like a

ponding area developed and would like for Parks to consider the empty lot adjacent to the park between Dyer and Railroad Drive for development to include trees, a bicycle path and benches. Dr. Merrifield, Director for Parks and Recreation Department invited the Sherman Park Neighborhood Community to the Master Plan community meetings being held. These meetings at different areas of town are for the purpose of identifying the needs at the Parks around their community. As per Bernie Sargent, Chairman of the Advisory Board, bond money has been allocated for Sherman Park for lighting along with basketball court, playground equipment, resurfacing the playground areas, ramps and walkways along the park and trees. Juan Contreras, Project Manager for P+3 stated that this particular park is part of project #4. It is in the final design stage. Construction should start in the middle of January, 2006. Depending on how the bids come in, there may be enough funds for a full court to be installed. Three shelters will be built along with walk ways along the park.

7. **Information and Discussion: Status Report of QOL Projects being Managed by P+3.** Juan Contreras, Project Manager for P+3 stated that a community meeting was held on the Westside Sports Complex with the primary emphasis on soccer, with a couple of softball fast pitch fields, and full size baseball fields. The joint use agreement with EPCC is still not in place. Fort Bliss Soccer Complex is in the Architectural and Engineering selection process. Sherman Park is in the first phase and the final design is underway to allow bid process in November with construction to begin the middle of January 2006.
8. **Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Report (Swings)** Dr. Norman Merrifield, Director of Parks and Recreation Department stated that Parks will attempt to work with the City for appropriations to replace old equipment prioritizing on swings that were removed and have become a liability. . The Land Management Division has a proposal to add 32 sets of swings to various parks through a 4 year implementation plan. Twenty parks will have relatively new swings but there are roughly 50-60 parks in need of swings. Newer equipment can be move when the need is no longer necessary. More data will be brought before the board as information develops.
9. **Information and Discussion on Youth Football Results:** Dr. Merrified, Director for Parks and Recreation stated that a preliminary report was composed partnering with the Extension Service getting feedback from the public. The results of this report have been positive and the public is pleased with the football program with only 4% giving it a poor level. The Board will be receiving updated information by next month.
10. **Status Report on CIP Projects: Item Postponed**
11. **Meeting adjourned by Bernie Sargent, Chairman at 7:30 p.m.**