

MINUTES

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**Meeting scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.,
Tuesday, November 10, 2009**

Break room of City Hall, 702 N. Highway 175, Seagoville, Texas.

**CHAIRPERSON
VICE-CHAIRPERSON
SECRETARY
COMMISSION MEMBER
COMMISSION MEMBER
COMMISSION MEMBER
COMMISSION MEMBER**

**LAURALEE FURSTENWERTH ACKER
BRENDA CALLAWAY
JOYCE MASSEY
MARY WARREN
SHARON CHAMBLISS
BLANCHE GATTIS
AMALIA (MOLLY) LOZANO**

Mission: *To provide quality leisure experiences, facilities, and programs for the citizens of Seagoville regardless of age or abilities, and to serve as stewards of our parks and natural open space.*

"It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit."
Harry Truman.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Massey declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Commissioners present were Blanche Gattis, Joyce Massey, Sharon Chambliss and Mary Warren. Chairperson LauraLee Furstenwerth Acker, Vice-Chairperson Brenda Callaway and Commissioner Molly Lozano were absent. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Ralph Mendez and Planning Technician/Commission Liaison Cindy Kintz.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 20, 2009

Mr. Mendez requested that the following be added to the October 20, 2009 minutes in the second paragraph under Section VI. Initiatives: for Petty White Park.

Commissioner Chambliss made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gattis, to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held on October 20, 2009 with the addition of "for Petty White Park" in the second paragraph under Section VI. Initiatives. Secretary Massey called for a vote with all present commissioners

voting AYE. The motion carried (3-0). Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker, Vice-Chairperson Callaway and Commissioner Lozano were absent.

III. **RESPONSE TO ISSUES OF OCTOBER MEETING**

None.

IV. **REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. The following event is requesting approval for use of C. O. Bruce/Central Park:

- Cinco de Mayo – Phil Greenwalt with the Chamber of Commerce will provide information regarding the plans for the May festival at C. O. Bruce/Central Park in 2010.

Mr. Mendez informed the commissioners that the Seagoville Chamber of Commerce would like to host the event during the week of May 5th and that Mr. Greenwalt was planning on attending the meeting but must have been detained. Mr. Mendez stated that he would place this item on the December 8th agenda.

V. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A. Bruce Central Park Survey of Users:

Texas A & M University is donating their services in developing and analyzing a survey on the use of C. O. Bruce/Central Park. The survey will be conducted by local volunteers working under the Texas A & M AgriLife Department. Volunteers will be trained using a video created by Texas A & M. The results will allow us to plan for future improvements to the park.

Mr. Mendez discussed the details of the park survey with the commissioners. He informed the commissioners that Dr. Walker with Texas A & M had met with him on several occasions. On her last visit, Dr. Walker brought ample copies of the actual survey along with supplies from pens to lanyards that convert into eyeglass holders. He distributed copies of the actual survey to the commissioners. He stated that the time frame in which volunteers would be conducting the survey at the park would be from late November/early December through May/June 2010. Commissioner Chambliss volunteered for taking part in conducting the survey.

Mr. Mendez explained that the volunteers conducting the survey would need to undergo formal training, which consists of viewing a video on how to approach people and conducting the survey. He informed the commissioners that he held his first training session earlier that same day consisting of thirty Seagoville High School students with half of them being Hispanic.

- B. The 2010 Patriotic Festival dates will be June 24, 25 and 26. I will begin developing contracts and having the entertainers reserve these dates for us.

Mr. Mendez informed the commissioners of the corny dog vendor at the last festival earlier in the year volunteering to assist with bringing more vendors to next year's event and had already provided him with six contacts. He reported that he was already working on the fireworks display contract; had two bands lined up; and four food vendors.

VI. **INITIATIVES**

Commissioner Warren spoke of the Arbor Day event Keep Seagoville Beautiful hosted the Saturday prior to the meeting and commented on how well organized the event was. The commissioners held a brief discussion over the event. Mr. Mendez reported that he had obtained five of the remaining trees left over from the event and they were to be planted at C. O. Bruce/Central Park the following week.

VII. **PARK COMMENTS**

- ❖ C. O. Bruce/Central Park – Secretary Massey reported that the park was fine. Commissioner Gattis complimented the landscaping around the children's playground area.
- ❖ Heard Park – Vice-Chairperson Callaway was absent.
- ❖ Casa Grande Park – Commissioner Chambliss stated that the park was okay.
- ❖ Putnam Park – Commissioner Warren commented on the condition of the roads surrounding the park due to the construction work.
- ❖ Petty White Park – Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker was absent.

Veterans' Park – Commissioner Gattis reported that some of the lights were still out in the park. She also commented that maybe two or three of the trees might not have received enough water during the summer.

- ❖ Bearden Park – Commissioner Lozano was absent.

VIII. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Without any further business to conduct, Secretary Massey adjourned the meeting with all present commissioners in agreement. Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker, Vice-Chairperson Callaway and Commissioner Lozano were absent.

JOYCE MASSEY
SECRETARY

ATTEST:

CINDY KINTZ, PLANNING TECHNICIAN
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LIAISON