

MINUTES

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**Meeting scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.,
Tuesday, April 13, 2010**

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.*

“Disciplining yourself to do what you know is right and important, although difficult, is the highroad to pride, self-esteem, and personal satisfaction.” Margaret Thatcher.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Commissioners present were Blanche Gattis, Molly Lozano, Joyce Massey and LauraLee Furstenwerth Acker. Commissioner Warren arrived at 6:33 p.m. Vice-Chairperson Brenda Callaway and Commisisoner Sharon Chambliss were absent. Also present were Parks and Recreation Director Ralph Mendez and Planning Technician/Commission Liaison Cindy Kintz.

Mayor Sidney Sexton and Phil Greenawalt, Executive Director of the Seagoville Chamber of Commerce, were also in the audience.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON MARCH 9, 2010

Secretary Massey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gattis, to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held on March 9, 2010 as written. Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker called for a vote with all present commissioners voting AYE. The motion carried (3-0). Commissioner Warren was not present at

the time the vote was taken. Vice-Chairperson Callaway and Commissioner Chambliss were absent.

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

A. Heard Park – Construction of the new shade structure began on March 24.

Parks and Recreation Director Ralph Mendez informed the commissioners that the shade structure was completely installed. He then reported that, after only forty-eight hours from being installed, the shade structure was vandalized with an estimated \$2,550 in damages. He stated that the City had an insurance deductible of \$2,500 and the City was searching for funds to repair the damages to the shade structure

B. Case Grande Park – The old slide removed February 26. The installations of the new slide and spring toy are completed.

Mr. Mendez reported that the total price for the new slide and spring toy was \$8,300 with an insurance deductible of \$2,500. He then informed the commissioners that, with the assistance of Human Resources Director Janet Goad and Director of Public Works/A.C.M. Mike Hitt, the City negotiated with its general liability insurance provider a new price with a slightly higher premium but only a \$500 deductible, which went into effect April 1st.

IV. **REQUESTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

A. The report on the Cinco de Mayo festivities is pending the Chamber's report to Seagoville department directors.

Mr. Phil Greenawalt informed the commissioners that the Cinco de Mayo Festival would be held on May 6, 7 and 8 with vendors in attendance on May 7 and 8. He reported that the Chamber of limiting the number of vendors to twenty or twenty-five; the tennis courts would be utilized as a dance floor; a radio station was to do a live broadcast at the festival; a mariachi band would be performing; the tejano band from the previous year's Seagofest would be the headliner; Councilman Jose Hernandez obtained four port-o-lets. He also reported that he was unable to obtain any dancers for the festival.

While Mr. Greenawalt was speaking, Mr. Mendez distributed literature that was given to him when he reserved a booth space for the PARC commissioners free of charge.

A brief discussion was held over the Chamber's annual auction being held the following Saturday. After the discussion, Mr. Greenawalt left the meeting.

The commissioners held a brief discussion over manning their booth space at the festival with Commissioner Warren signing up for Saturday, May 8th, from 10:00 a.m. until approximately 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Lozano stated she could also be there on Saturday for several hours. Commissioner Gattis stated she would be at the festival with the Seagoville Police Association Alumni/Citizens on Patrol. Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker stated she would be available after 5:00 p.m. on Saturday when the soccer games were over. Secretary Massey stated that she and her daughter, Vice-Chairperson Callaway, would be out of town at her eldest grandson's college graduation in Arkansas that week-end.

V. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- A. The SEDC Board approved the grant request for a new fountain in the pond located inside C. O. Bruce/Central Park. This went through a public hearing on April 5th.

Mr. Mendez informed the commissioners that the S.E.D.C. unanimously approved the grant request for the new fountain at their public hearing on April 5th. He stated that the request would go before the City Council during their April 15th meeting. He also stated that he had spoken to the company that was going to install the new fountain and found out that it would take three weeks to install the fountain.

- B. I requested a booth at the Cinco de Mayo festival from Ritha Edwards with the Chamber of Commerce. She will be sending some documents to me.

The commissioners chose the first Patriotic Festival flyer included in their agenda packets with addition of event times included on the flyer. Mr. Mendez stated that he was going to create a separate flyer for the costume contest with registration starting at 5:00 p.m. and the actual contest starting at 7:00 p.m. all on Saturday, June 26th. Secretary Massey asked if items for prizes had started being collected yet. Mr. Mendez stated that he needed to order the trophies and had not started asking for donations yet. Commissioner Lozano inquired about having an open microphone event again at the festival. Mr. Mendez stated that the event was going to be held again this year.

VI. **INITIATIVES**

- A. The directional signs for the Community Center have been ordered from Seagoville Signs and Designs and they are ready to be placed. The Senior Services program will pay for the signs.

Mr. Mendez commented that the signs had arrived but was unclear on when they were going to be placed. He stated the signs would read *Community Center* with *Senior Services* in smaller lettering. Secretary Massey informed Mr. Mendez that the senior citizens were not happy that the building was not going to be called the senior citizens center.

VII. **PARK COMMENTS**

- ❖ C. O. Bruce/Central Park – Secretary Massey reported that the park was freshly mowed and looked good. She also reported that the new landscaping was blooming and it appeared that people were cutting trails through it. Mr. Mendez commented that, once the landscaping grew outward, people would not be able to cut through it. Commissioner Gattis reported on the one rather large pothole in the park.
- ❖ Heard Park – Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker reported on the downed tree branches. Mr. Mendez commented that he thought the branches were dumped in the park.
- ❖ Casa Grande Park – Commissioner Chambliss was absent.
- ❖ Putnam Park – Commissioner Warren inquired about the roads around the park being repaired yet. Mr. Mendez reported that Avenues A, B and C were recently repaired/repaved by Dallas County.
- ❖ Petty White Park – Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker reported on the attempted break-in of the concessions facility near the under eight years old fields and how clean the thief was. She stated that the thief/thieves tore out the sheet rock and insulation and threw them in a trash can but what they did not realize was where they were breaking in at was where the Coke machine was on the opposite side of the wall. She reported \$1,200 in damages from the attempted break-in.
- ❖ Veterans' Park – Commissioner Gattis reported that all of the lantanas died. She stated that the heavy snow was a contributing factor. She stated that the soil was excellent where the lantanas had been planted. Secretary Massey suggested planting hearty nanas in place of the lantanas.
- ❖ Bearden Park – Commissioner Lozano reported that the park looked very nice except for around the dumpster area. She commented that it looked like someone had done some remodeling and dumped the debris around the dumpster.

The commissioners briefly discussed Seagoville Youth Sports Association purchasing two cameras and having them as well as an additional outside light installed around the concessions/storage building as an attempt to deter further break-ins. Mr. Mendez informed the commissioners that the youth and adult baseball leagues officially started playing on April 12, 2010.

VIII. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Without any further business to discuss, Chairperson Furstenwerth Acker adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m. with all present commissioners in agreement. Vice-Chairperson Callaway and Commissioner Chambliss were absent.

LAURALEE FURSTENWERTH ACKER
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

CINDY KINTZ, PLANNING TECHNICIAN
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION LIAISON