

MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
CITY COMMISSION ROOM
MARCH 5, 2012
4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members: Ms. Stacy Mackey, Mr. Bruce McMillan, Ms. Ashalen Sims, Mr. Oscar Montenegro, Mr. Curt Herrman, and Ms. Linda Teener. Mr. Walt Pesaresi was absent. Present at this meeting was Mr. Curt Loupe, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Scott Shoemaker, Sunset Zoo Director; Mr. Mike Buchanan, Recreation Superintendent; and Mrs. Buffy Woodward, Administrative Assistant. Visitors included Mr. Justin Reilly.

MINUTES

Ms. Teener called the meeting to order. It was moved by Mr. McMillan, seconded by Mr. Herrman, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on February 6, 2012. On vote, motion carried 6-0.

FLINT HILLS DISCOVERY CENTER UPDATE

Mr. Loupe stated that the Flint Hills Discovery Center's grand opening will be on April 14. Memberships will go on sale April 1. He encouraged everyone to visit the Discovery Center's Facebook page for more information and updates. A staff member from the Parks and Recreation Office has been transferred to the Discovery Center to oversee the RecTrac registration package that will also be used at the Discovery Center and the Sunset Zoo.

SUNSET ZOO EDUCATION BUILDING UPDATE

Mr. Shoemaker gave an overview of the construction of the Gibbons Exhibit and the Education Building. The John Woodard Memorial Gibbons Exhibit's grand opening will be on April 22, which is also Earth Day. The exhibit features multiple viewing elevations. The Nature Exploration Center's grand opening will be in early June. The main function of the building is education but meeting/rental space will be available also. There will be four classrooms; the high school classroom will feature distance learning capabilities funded by the Peine Foundation.

VISITOR COMMENT

Mr. Buchanan introduced Mr. Justin Reilly and invited him to address the Board. Mr. Reilly is a Pittsburg State student who has been interning with the Parks and Recreation Department since January and will continue through April.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Loupe mentioned that a Recreation Supervisor will be hired to take care of the pools and the ice rink full time. Advertising the position now and hoping to fill it by the beginning of swim season.

Future agenda items – Union Pacific Train Depot update and Swimming Season update

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Loupe stated that Mr. Chuck DePrima has been hired as Park Planner, and Ms. Ginny Pape has been hired as Recreation Coordinator. A strong season of Arts in the Park performances is planned.

It was moved by Mr. Herrman, seconded by Mr. Montenegro, to adjourn the meeting. On vote, motion carried 6-0.