

MINUTES  
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY COMMISSION ROOM  
MAY 5, 2014  
4:30 P.M.

Present were the following members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Ms. Linda Teener, Mr. Bruce McMillan, Mr. Dave Schafer, and Mr. Ed Klimek. Ms. Ashalen Sims, Mr. Aaron Estabrook, and Ms. Marcia Rozell were absent. Also present at this meeting were: Mr. Eddie Eastes, Director of Parks and Recreation; Mr. Wyatt Thompson, Park Planner; Mr. Mike Buchanan, Recreation Superintendent, Mr. Scott Shoemaker, Zoo Director; Mr. Fred Goss, Flint Hills Discovery Center Director; Mr. Casey Smithson, Park Superintendent; Ms. Debbie Dugan, Administrative Supervisor; Chrissy Kramer, Administrative Assistant; and Tammy Galvan, Administrative Coordinator/HR. Visitors present: Mr. Joey Lightner.

MINUTES

Ms. Teener called the meeting to order. It was moved by Mr. McMillan, seconded by Mr. Schafer to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 3, 2014. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Eastes announced Ms. Dugan's retirement on June 20, 2014.

BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Lightner presented bike month activities, plans for 2014 infrastructure changes, and planning for the Bicycle Advisory Committee. Discussion ensued regarding bike versus pedestrian traffic and the proposed bike boulevards on 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Houston Street. The board thanked Mr. Lightner for attending the meeting.

SUNSET ZOO FEE PROPOSAL

Mr. Shoemaker presented the board with a proposed, updated fee schedule to allow Sunset Zoo programs to be comparable to Flint Hills Discovery Center (FHDC) programs. Mr. Shoemaker also presented historical data for Special Sunset Zoo Revenue Fund and use of those funds to update the physicality of the zoo. Mr. Shoemaker also provided a comparison of Sunset Zoo with other state and national zoos of same size and census. The board discussed the FHDC Advisory Board being separate from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. It was moved by Mr. McMillan, seconded by Mr. Schafer to recommend the updated fee structure to the City Commission. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Mr. Thompson presented the board with a draft of the Request for Qualifications for the Parks and Recreation Strategic Facility Improvement Plan. The board recommends adding the Manhattan Fieldhouse Study (2013) (privately funded proposal) in Section III. Previous Studies; adding detail of the partnerships opportunities in Section V. Development of Scope of Services, Sub Section E. Recommendations and Deliverables #7; and adding a pre-proposal meeting into Section VI. Proposed Timetable. It was moved by Mr. McMillan, seconded by Mr. Klimek to recommend approval of the Request for Qualifications for the Parks and Recreation Strategic Facility Improvement Plan, with the recommended additions, to the City Commission. On vote, motion carried 4-0.

### STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Shoemaker stated that admissions are up over 3,000 from 2013. April has been a great month, Earth Day increased admissions. Wine in the Wild is coming in June 2014.

Mr. Smithson indicated that the water at Blue Earth Plaza is on. The three pools will have water next week. The staff has been busy mowing the parks and getting ready for visitors. Last weekend, the City had approximately 100 volunteers cleaning the Linear Park Trail.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Bolton Memorial was well attended on April 12, 2014. A bench was dedicated to Chuck and Pat Born in Northeast Park on April 28, 2014. Comprehensive plans will be available on May 14, 2014, at Green Valley Community Center and the Fire Headquarters; and on May 15, 2014 in the City Commission Room. The dedication for Long's Park will be on May 22, 2014 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. with a historical summit at City Hall immediately following. City staff met with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) regarding the Transportation Alternative Grant and discussed the Knox Lane bike lane and Big Blue Beautification projects. KDOT provided feedback and suggested it will be September before a decision is made for the grant.

Mr. Goss informed the board that Flint Hills Day brought 325 visitors to Blue Earth Plaza and 500 visitors through the doors of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Ice Age Imperials will begin on June 14, 2014, and posters are being distributed around town for promotion. There are new rack cards that were designed and paid for by the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Buchanan stated that April, May, and June are very busy months for the Recreation Division with programming, planning and implementing the activities and programs for the department. Season passes for the water parks are being promoted to try to alleviate the last minute rush to the Parks and Recreation Office on Friday, May, 23, 2014.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Eastes discussed a meeting with a group of individuals dealing with the Peace Memorial City Auditorium to identify priorities to present to the commission. Mr. McMillan mentioned that Flint Hills Regional Council Meetings are being held as brown bag lunches at the Flint Hills Discovery Center. Mr. Eastes also stated that the Request for Proposals for the Boy Scout Cabin will be presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at a later time.

### ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. McMillan, seconded by Mr. Schafer to adjourn the meeting. On vote, motion carried 4-0.