

MINUTES

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – MARCH 13, 2017  
LIBRARY AND RECREATION MEETING ROOMS

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leo Bell, Jr. Vice-Chair  
Don Johnson, Chair  
Reginald Hurd  
Alexander (Sandy) McLachlan  
Ed Priest

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Roderick Lee  
Eugenia Rodgers

Bart Stevenson, Staff Liaison, Timothy Hamilton, Parks Superintendent, and Pam Willis, Recording Secretary, were city staff members in attendance. Officer Chris McCaleb attended in place for Park Ranger Officer Kamecha Johnston.

Chair Johnson noted that there was a quorum present and began the public meeting at 6:31 p.m.

**Item #1 – Public Discussion Period:**

David Galbraith of 203 Brookwood, Duncanville, TX 75116 wanted to request from the Park Board the creation of bike trails. He noted that he was aware of the Comprehensive Plan that is being done and wanted to make sure the Board considered adding bike lanes to the Comp Plan and the Park Master Plan.

**Item #2 – Discussion and Consider Approval of Minutes:**

Chair Johnson asked if everyone had read over the minutes from February 9, 2017. Vice-Chair Bell motioned for the minutes to be accepted as written; a second motion came from Board member Priest. A vote was taken of 5 in favor and 0 opposed. Minutes were approved as written. Board members Lee and Rodgers were absent from the vote.

**Item #3 – Staff Reports:**

- A. **Park Ranger Report** – Officer Chris McCaleb, sitting in for Park Ranger Johnston, gave the following information: There were 179 Computed Patrols because of system failure non-computed patrols are not included. There was one accident of Hit and Run at Harrington Park with a possible suspect and Accident Involving Injury offense report submitted. The following occurred at Pyburn Park, one Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon occurred with an offense report being submitted, but no arrest was made and the case closed; an Arrest was made for Probation Violation; and six (6) Field Contacts regarding Narcotic Activity were made. At Red Bird Park, an Assault occurred and an Assault Family Violence Information Report was submitted. There were three (3) Citations written. Officer McCaleb informed the Board that he had accepted another job within the department and Officer Rebecca Young would be at the meeting in April.
- B. **Recent and Upcoming Events and Programs** – Staff announced that Spring Break Camp had 50 children on the first day. A reminder was given for the Easter Egg Hunt (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.) and the Operation Clean Duncanville (8 a.m. – 1 p.m.) will both be on Saturday, April 8. Staff also recognized Keep Duncanville Beautiful for having a successful Garden Workshop on Saturday, March 11, 2017.
- C. **FY17 Innovation Fund Projects** – Staff acknowledged that most of the large projects had been completed. It was announced that plans had been approved for the Chemical Storage building; work would begin on that soon. Board member Hurd asked about placing bollards in Harrington Park that could be a solution for the barricade that closes part of the park off. It was

discussed that the departments of Parks and Recreation, Street and Transportation would need to work on that solution.

- D. **Park Master Plan** – Staff noted that there had been over 130 responses to the Park Master Plan survey and at least 20 paper copies had been turned into the Parks and Recreation Department. The survey will be available until the end of the month. Staff mentioned that Dunaway Associates was planning a Tour of Benchmark Cities, but no date had been set for it.

**Item #4 – Fitness Area at the Recreation Center:**

Vice-Chair Bell commented at this time that the fitness equipment in the fitness area was in need of repair or to be updated. Staff responded by saying that they had plans to meet with representatives from Marathon Fitness ([www.marathonfitness.com](http://www.marathonfitness.com)) and Comm-fit ([www.comm-fit.net](http://www.comm-fit.net)) to discuss maintenance or replacement of the recreation fitness equipment. Staff noted that there had been requests to expand the recreation fitness area and would that would possibly be discussed in the Park Master Plan.

**Item #5 – Fitness Stations at Armstrong Park and Other Parks:**

Staff gave the floor to Vice-Chair Bell. Vice-Chair Bell passed out handouts that reflected fitness equipment that he had seen at the parks in South America and Chile on his last trip. He explained that everyone was using the equipment. He requested that the Board and the Parks and Recreation Department look into the cost and creating a plan to get fitness equipment into the Duncanville Parks. His thought was that once a cost was presented then possibly community groups throughout the City would participate in giving donations to set up the equipment in the park system. Staff commented that a pull-up bar had already been installed at Red Bird and that the community was using it. Vice-Chair Bell explained that a perfect placement of the equipment would be along the trails that some park have. Questions were asked from Board members Priest and McLachlan regarding liability and surfacing. Staff responded that the liability was probably not a huge increase in comparison with the regular playground area and the surfacing was the same as a playground area. The Board agreed that this concept needed to be pursued further.

**Item #6 – Parking at Armstrong:**

Staff announced that they had been working with the Duncanville Police Department (DPD) regarding the parking or the lack there of out and around Armstrong Park. Staff handed out a map showing the parking plan that had been discussed between City Staff and DPD. Staff commented that the benefits of the plan would create approximately 26 more spaces increasing access and for DPD it would give them a place for when they had training and other police departments would have a place to park. Staff told the Board it would be a month long project. Discussion continued on Armstrong Park with regards to turning the tennis courts into basketball courts and adding splash pads. Board member McLachlan inquired on the status of alcohol being able to be served at the Duncanville Fieldhouse and at the D.L. Hopkins, Jr. Senior Center. Staff responded that the request for alcohol at those two (2) locations was moving forward and hopefully have an answer soon.

A motion was made by Board member Priest; a second was received from Board member Hurd. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

  
Pam Willis  
Recording Secretary

  
Don Johnson  
Chair