

RUSSELLVILLE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Minutes from Monthly Meeting
March 14, 2019 *M.*

Present: Johnny Brazil, Dallis Clark, Jamey Ellis, Matt Gray, Greg Hines, Alderman Chris Olson, Terry Thomas
Absent: Bryan Fisher
Person Recording: Kelli Nealy
Guests: Ryan Harmon-The Courier; Rita Richardson-Mobile News

Terry Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:10p.

Dallis Clark made a motion to accept the minutes from the February meeting. Greg Hines seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Park Master Plan-Three firms were interviewed for development of the Parks Master Plan. A firm has been chosen, and all companies interviewed will be notified. A meeting will be scheduled with the company selected to set a budget and scope. The commissioners will be notified of the meeting date and time.

New Business

A. Aquatic Center Admission Fee for Seniors-Fees at the Aquatic Center were initially set by reviewing prices of other centers in the state. The commissioners were given a current fee comparison schedule for other state aquatic facilities. Most centers in Arkansas currently offer a discounted rate to senior citizens, and the Russellville facility does not offer a price break. After a brief discussion, a recommendation was made to offer a rate of \$180.00/year for senior citizens. Dallis Clark made a motion in favor of the recommendation. Johnny Brazil seconded the motion, and the motion passed. In addition, daily admission punch cards were discussed in an effort to increase traffic at the facility. Johnny Brazil made a motion to sell 10 visit promotional cards for \$45.00. Jamey Ellis seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The offer will be reviewed in September to determine its effectiveness.

Updates

A. Shiloh Pavilion-The frame and post are up on the new pavilion at Shiloh Park. The roof should be finished next week.

B. Aquatic Center-The 5A State High School Swim Meet was held at the Aquatic Center in February. Approximately 220 swimmers from 20 teams participated in the meet. Preliminary discussions and planning are underway in hopes the meet will be hosted at the facility next year. The center will once again host the 2nd annual "Aquatic Egg Hunt" on April 20. Registration is required, and it will be limited to 400 children. Donations of individually wrapped candy would be greatly appreciated.

C. Grants-Drawings were shown of a trail project connecting three schools and four parks in Russellville that may be submitted for an 80/20 ARDOT grant. Applications for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant are not available at this time. An all-inclusive playground is one project being considered for this grant. In addition, an application will be submitted for a \$25,000 "Bark in Your Park" grant to aid in development of a dog park at Pleasant View Park.

D. Monthly Report-The commissioners received a copy of the department's monthly report.

E. Upcoming Events-A schedule of upcoming events was given to the commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50pm.