

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2023

<u>BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Tony Guerrero	Brad Bentsen
Chris Voss	JC Calderon
Jesus Mendiola	Jorge R. Chapa
Maggie Guajardo Pena	Rick Contreras
Mark Minton	Pete Lopez
Melissa Reyna	Taylor Cavazos
Karina Garza	

**Call to Order**

Tony Guerrero called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call**

Mr. Guerrero called roll and a quorum was met.

**Prayer**

Mark Minton led us in prayer.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Board Members approved the minutes for the April 11, 2023 Board Meeting were unanimously approved. Mark Minton made the motion to approve seconded by Chris Voss.

**Update on Parks**

The Parks Department helped, along with clean up, set up tables, chairs, tents, trash cans, sound system and whatever else was needed at the following events,

- CDBG led event that included the celebration of Dia de los Ninos, Arbor day, and informational booths with information for housing,
- A Police led event at Bannworth Park for the Autism community
- Groundbreaking event for the Taylor Road expansion project
- Groundbreaking by Rodco company at the corner of Conway and the Frontage for expansion to include a 2 story building that will also include a Harbor Freight store
- City of Mission Boys and Girls Club fundraising golf tournament
- Sanitation Department with a Spring cleanup getting furniture items and old, used tires
- Police Department with a Garden of Life event at Bannworth Park where 14 trees were planted for victims of abuse.

- CDBG at Mission Event Center where information was available for housing and the older generation

Staff came in after the storm on Friday night. All crews were working on clearing streets south of 495 from Taylor and Inspiration Roads. That took several days and as soon as possible crews were sent to the cemeteries where a bunch of trees were torn with the devastation.

Irrigation Crew, Strike team and Horticultural team continue their assigned duties but help the rest of the Parks Department when they are needed.

### UPDATE OF RECREATION

The Recreation Department has been pretty busy with registration for TAAF Swim team, selling Lap Swim cards, renting fields for both practice and tournaments, taking swimming pool rentals and also renting and giving out information for best possible spots for 5 and 10 Ks.

Pickleball continues on its slower attendance rates but we continue to receive compliments about being the Mothership for Pickleball in the Rio Grande Valley. Monday Night play is going really well as we are averaging over 30 participants.

We are close to starting another night for Men's Basketball league. We will start the league on either Monday or Wednesday whichever is the first to start.

We have made and posted flyers on Facebook and handed and placed at different areas around the community and to our neighboring cities for Kickball, Softball and Coed Softball. We are getting plenty of response but can't get enough teams to start leagues. We continue to work away in the hopes we can start a league or 2 of each.

We will be hosting Track and Field at both Shary North Jr. High and Tom Landry Stadium 8:30 to 10:30 in the morning and 5:30-7:30 in the evening t Tom Landry. We will host our Tennis program at Birdwell Tennis Center and Archery and Soccer/Swim at CVW Park. We are expecting a huge summer of participation. We will be hosting a Tennis tournament and a Track and Field meet making it the first time we will be hosting one of each one the same summer since I have been here.

We hosted Music at the Park and had a great show. During a lull in the show our hostess, Anais Chapa, asked for volunteers for karaoke and was pleasantly surprised with the response we received. A great rendition of Tennessee Whisky was performed which should prompt this to be a regular 15-25 minutes slot for our shows. I really think this will be a great slot and will help bring people out and be the star of the show, if not only for a while!!! We only hope to improve this with each show we put on.

### Aquatics Update

Lap swimming continues both mornings and afternoons at Bannworth Pool. Attendance has been good and continues to be steady.

Bannworth Pool is being used the Sharyland Jr. High swim teams. The groups of people enrolled in swimming are big with over 100 swimmers. A Jr. High swim meet was hosted at Bannworth with 8 teams participation.

Rick Contreras, Aquatics Manager, just finished the second lifeguard class. He will soon be hosting a third class in the hopes of hiring enough lifeguards to host a full summer of aquatic programs. 12 classes were eliminated last summer due to not enough lifeguards applying for work.

Bannworth and Mayberry pools are hosting 2-3 parties each weekend and people are asking for more party slots to be opened up.

USA numbers continue to drop at this time of year due to athletes opting to register for the TAAF program. TAAF has 124 athletes already for a program which will be capped at around 225. City of Mission Aquatics will be hosting TAAF Regionals both this and next year.

### Other Business

There were 6 companies to bid on the Lions Park Project with 3 finalists coming from this group. G & G Contractors was awarded the bid, with a 4-1 vote to accept by the Mayor and City Council. Mr. Bentsen will stay on top of this project and offer advice as to what is best for the City of Mission going forward.

Eddie Cantu, Hidalgo County Precinct 2 Commissioner, continues to push forward asking us to do our part in the plans to have a biking trail connecting the different cities in the upper valley. Plans are to integrate a trail along the drainage ditch system from Los Ebanos Road to Taylor Road in the City of Mission. Some of the infrastructure, under several major roads, is already in place. The requirement of all this system being concrete instead of blacktop is the major drawback because of the expense to be incurred. Our Advisory Board is in full support of this project.

We need to approach the Mayor, City Council and the City Manager to help us fund playgrounds like the newly installed one at Bannworth Park for other parks, the water detention area on Holland isn't developed, the water detention on Riverside and Blake isn't developed, to overlay

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.late Tennis Courts so that our many Pickleball players will have an outdoor venue to enjoy the fastest growing sport not only for the senior citizens but for people of all ages. We need to help +Mr. Bentsen with this and ask the Advisory

Board to help him with ideas to formulate a plan for the budget and talk to our elected officials that we need their help to get the City of Mission Parks and other places our citizens would like to spend time with their children at.

## Adjournment

Mark Minton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Melissa Reyna. The Board voted unanimously to approve.