

Wylie Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2023 – 5:30 pm

Council Chambers - 300 Country Club Road, Building #100, Wylie, Texas 75098



CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Kim Mullis called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The following Parks and Recreation Board members were present: Board Member Brian Willeford, Board Member Craig Allen, Board Member Nick Puente, Board Member Gerald Dyson, and Board Member Randall Zabochnik. Board Vice-Chair Gloria Suarez was absent from the meeting.

Staff present included: Parks and Recreation Director Carmen Powlen, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Brent Stowers, and Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant II Janet Pieper.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No Citizens came forward.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Consider and act upon approval of the March 13, 2023, Regular Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes.**

Board Action

A motion was made by Board Member Willeford, seconded by Board Member Allen, to approve the March 13, 2023, Regular Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes. A vote was taken, and the motion passed 6-0, with Board Vice-Chair Gloria Suarez absent from the meeting.

2. **Consider and act upon approval of the Non-Profit Park Event Application from Wylie Independent School District (WISD) Council of PTAs representative Becky Welch, to hold the “Back the Future” event at Olde City Park on Saturday, September 23, 2023, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.**

Board Action

A motion was made by Board Member Willeford, seconded by Board Member Allen, to approve the Non-Profit Park Event Application from Wylie Independent School District (WISD) Council of PTAs representative Becky Welch, to hold the “Back the Future” event at Olde City Park on Saturday, September 23, 2023, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A vote was taken, and the motion passed 6-0, with Board Vice-Chair Gloria Suarez absent from the meeting.

3. **Consider and act upon approval of the Non-Profit Park Event Application from Connection Point Church representative Megan Williams, to hold the “Run for the Fatherless 5K and Fun Run” event at Founders Park on Saturday, November 18, 2023, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.**

Board Action

A motion was made by Board Member Puente, seconded by Board Member Dyson, to approve the Non-Profit Park Event Application from Connection Point Church representative Megan Williams, to hold the “Run for the Fatherless 5K and Fun Run” event at Founders Park on Saturday, November 18, 2023, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. A vote was taken, and the motion passed 6-0, with Board Vice-Chair Gloria Suarez absent from the meeting.

WORK SESSION

WS1. Ethiopian Soccer Tournament Discussion.

Staff Comments:

Assistant Director Brent Stowers reviewed the details regarding the upcoming Ethiopian Soccer Tournament, hosted by the Ethiopian Sports Federation in North America (ESFNA.) The all-adult tournament event dates are Sunday, July 2nd through Saturday, July 9th, and will take place primarily in Founders Park, the Wylie Senior High School’s Pirate Stadium, and the school’s north parking lot. Most of the tournament games will take place at the stadium, but three of the east fields at Founders Park will also be utilized. The ESFNA has requested to include a firework show in Founders Park and a 5K run at the Founders Park trail, but no final decisions have been made on either at this time. Mr. Stowers advised that the league use at Founders Park will be off-season and field reservations closed during the tournament event.

Board Comments:

Board Chair Mullis asked if the \$100,000 donation from the City of Wylie to the ESFNA included the City expenses associated with the tournament event. Mr. Stowers advised that the donation was in addition to the anticipated expense to the City of Wylie. Ms. Mullis expressed concern about what the field conditions will be like after so many games were played at the Founders Park athletic fields in such a short time. Mr. Stowers advised that staff is preparing for field restoration after the event is over.

Board Member Dyson stated that he was advised that the number of attendees for the ESFNA event is expected to be much higher than the association states. Mr. Stowers responded that the ESFNA decided to scale down the event after seeing the actual size of the Wylie facilities they plan to utilize. Mr. Dyson inquired about the anticipated tax revenue that could be generated by the tournament event, to which Mr. Stowers responded has not yet been determined.

Board Member Zabochnik commented that large events like the ESFNA’s do not typically scale back on their annual events. He expressed concern that the City of Wylie’s infrastructure will not accommodate an event of that size and asked why the ESFNA chose to come to Wylie. Mr. Stowers advised that the association has played tournaments in Texas in years past and that the ESFNA chose to host in Wylie because one of the association’s board members is a Wylie resident.

Board Member Allen asked if the participating vendors in the event are expected to acquire the typically required event permits, such as food handling permits. Mr. Stowers responded that the permits would be the responsibility of the Wylie Independent School since the vendors will be set up on school property.

Staff Comments:

Mr. Stowers advised that he will bring back additional details for the June Parks and Recreation Board Meeting, which are expected to be more solidified by then.

WS2. Project Updates.

Staff Comments

Assistant Director Brent Stowers updated the board members on completed and ongoing departmental projects. The six projects brought before Council for mid-year adjustments were all approved as presented. Mr. Stowers added that funding for the mid-year adjustments would come from the 4B Tax revenue and would not impact property taxes in Wylie.

Wylie City Council approved the additional \$205,000 requested for the dog park project, which will allow the completion of the entire conceptual plan, including 3 paddocks, agility equipment, pavilions, and landscaping.

Wylie City Council approved the additional 1.27 million requested for the two splash pad projects, allowing the completion of the entire conceptual plan. Staff is in the process of reviewing project bids for both the dog park and the two splash pad projects and expects construction to begin within the next six months, with an anticipated completion date of spring 2024.

Wylie City Council approved the requested \$300,000 for the Community Park restroom project, which is the replacement of the existing restroom with a new larger facility that better accommodates the addition of the splash pad amenity.

Wylie City Council approved the requested \$70,000 to transition one of the existing Community Park basketball courts to a pickleball court. This project will include the necessary concrete for the court expansion, court resurfacing, and fencing for the three courts. This project is expected to be completed this summer.

Wylie City Council approved the request for \$300,000 to build an outdoor restroom facility at the Welcome Center at the Brown House. The outdoor restrooms will help accommodate future outdoor event space.

Wylie City Council approved the request for one million dollars to renovate the west side athletic fields at Founders Park. This will include upgraded irrigation, lighting, and new sod in the area. These fields will primarily be utilized for football and multipurpose athletic use.

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Board Member Allen, seconded by Board Member Willeford, to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 pm. A vote was taken, and the motion passed 6-0, with Board Vice-Chair Gloria Suarez absent from the meeting.

Kim Mullis, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Janet Pieper, Administrative Assistant II