



PARKS & RECREATION BOARD-CITY OF GAINESVILLE
MEETING MINUTES

The Parks & Recreation board met for a monthly meeting on October 22, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gainesville Civic Center.

Members Present: Martin Phillips, Dick Haayan, Paula Moore, Joanie Jones, Matthew Compton

Members Absent: Latecia Hendricks, Joseph Christian

Staff Present: Kevin Gann, Zenia Cruz

Guests Present: Tommy Moore, Valerie Pettigrew, Tavia Josey, Riley

ACTION

A quorum was present.

The First item was to approve September 24, 2024 minutes. Dick Haayan made the motion to accept and Matthew Compton second the motion. Passed with unanimous consent.

Recognition of Citizens with Non-Agenda items- None

DISCUSSION

Visitor Valerie brought up the trash issue on the walking trail. Wants to get a group and be able to clean areas that need it. Would love to volunteer when there is a group out doing this.

We used to have different groups like kid groups that would set something up like that. Maybe getting together with High School or Middle School Groups to help with their volunteer hours. If we get a group the Parks and Recreation would supply bags and up the trash bags after the event. Valley Creek Church did a trash pickup not too long ago.

Dick brought up the Zoo and what they will be working on. The Contract for Wildlife Association to there attorney before they sign it

and what will happen after everything is signed. The WildLife Foundation will spend \$350,000 to that area to put in approved double fence and fix the ground and bring in new animals. The community is coming together and they have received equipment to maintain the new grounds and funds for a grand opening.

Levee Project, what are the rules, had they been contacted on what we can do on that or over that. We need to reach out to them. The Zoo's project will not be able to continue if they are not contacted by the city and they will do that. We have an issue with a drainage pipe and are currently in contact with them about it.

Martin received an email Sean who is helping with the Master Plan for Parks and he is trying to coordinate a trip down to Dallas to look at their Parks. Some time later. We are hoping to do it on a Saturday. There is no set date. Martin will keep us up to date on when this will occur.

We need to think big. What do we want our parks to look like in twenty, ten or five years from now? I know we are talking big city but in Oklahoma City in 1992 they were identified as the most obese city in America and so the Mayor came up with this proposal in 1992 that was a billion dollars to build Rebuild there. Not only did they do it but they have done it three times since 1992. They made it into a destination place for people to want to be there. So we need to think of that as we look into our future plans. Obviously a billion is crazy but we need to think bigger than \$100,000 playground or 200,000 Ball park. We need to think what we want it to look like.

The changes that have accrued in the past few years have been noticed. We need to continue with is maybe with a bond. But this is defiantly something that we should be pushing for. We are hoping to do the tours soon to get ideas.

Soccer fields do need updating we are hoping to first get the pump fixed at the Waste Water Plant. But they are working on a main sewer line.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, October 22, 2024

Zenia Cruz
Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation Department


Martin Phillips
Chairman

2/25/25
Date