

RUSSELLVILLE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Minutes from Monthly Meeting *11*
March 12, 2020

Present: Johnny Brazil, Dallis Clark, Jamey Ellis, Greg Hines, Terry Thomas
Absent: Bryan Fisher, Chris Olson
Person Recording: Kelli Nealy
Guests: Hannah Butler-The Courier

Call to Order

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

Approval of Minutes

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

Old Business

A. Park Master Plan Review-A Park Master Plan Open House was held on Monday, February 10 at the Russellville Depot. The purpose of the event was to give an overview of the planning process, communicate public comments and get feedback on preliminary recommendations. Approximately 30 people attended with a wide array of interest groups represented. According to Half Associates, the attendance was sufficient for a city of our population. Recommendations will be submitted March 17, and these will be forwarded to the commission for comments and prioritizing. A special called meeting will be held in April at which time Half Associates will present the plan to the commission followed by a presentation to City Council.

New Business

A. ArDOT Trail Grant 2020-A remaining balance of \$180,000 from a previous city awarded grant has been transferred to the school house trail project. After the city's match, approximately \$225,000 will be available to complete phase one of the trail. The department would like to apply for the full \$500,000 ArDOT grant this year for phase two. Greg Hines made a motion in favor of submitting the grant application. Johnny Brazil seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Updates

A. Aquatic Center-The Russellville Aquatic Center was the host site for the 5A State Swim and Dive Meet on February 28 and 29. A large crowd of spectators was on hand to cheer on their favorite swimmer and/or team. Russellville School District signed an agreement to host the state meet at the Aquatic Center for the next three years. The facility staff presented a backyard pool safety class to the community on March 7. The Russellville Fire Department was on hand to teach the participants how to perform CPR. A certified lifeguard training program will be held in a couple of weeks. The center will once again host the annual "Aquatic Egg Hunt", and donations of individually wrapped candy would be appreciated.

B. Russellville Dog Park Grand Opening-Signage is up at the Russellville Dog Park, and as soon as the waterlines are installed the water fountains will be set. A ribbon cutting will be held on March 12 at 4:30pm. The commissioners were encouraged to attend.

C. Sequoyah Park-The Morning Rotary Club installed the handicap swing and wheelchair swing at Sequoyah Park. Earth Works placed Astroturf underneath the swings.

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 12:35pm.