

**CITY OF DENISON
PARKS & RECREATION
COMMISSION MEETING**

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday, February 25, 2008

**SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER
531 W. CHESTNUT**

<u>Present:</u>	Chairperson	Kathy Wilburn
	Vice Chairperson	David Hudgens
	Member	Laura Allison
	Member	Tommy Cassidy
	Member	Leon Criss
	Member	Butch Goodman
	Member	Bennie Sue Smith

<u>Staff Present:</u>	Director	Sharon Lafitte
	Secretary	Sunny Mackey
	Athletic Superintendent	Ben Reeves

Chairperson Wilburn called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

Item I.

The first item of business on the agenda was the approval of the January minutes. On a motion made by Butch Goodman and seconded by Bennie Sue Smith, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Item II.

The second item of business on the agenda was a request by Texoma Soccer Association to utilize Raynal. Mr. Shane Best, President of the Texoma Soccer Association and Mr. Eric Weisburg were present. Mr. Best stated that the adult teams would like to use Raynal as a backup field for practices and games.

Chairperson Wilburn reminded the Commission that at the January meeting it had been approved for the Liga De Futbol Latino Americana to have total usage of Raynal Fields (North and South) from March 1, 2008 to August 17, 2008. The group is responsible for putting up and taking down nets at the fields, litter control, and maintaining and cleaning of the restroom facility. This reservation was handled similar to Little League and Pony League agreements.

The group also has the authority to allow or not allow other groups/organizations to practice or play at the facility during the reserved dates and times.

The Commission referred Mr. Best to Mr. Edgar Guevara with the Liga De Futbol Latino Americana. No motion had to be taken.

Item III.

The next item was the consideration of a request by Denison Little League to construct an awning on concession stand. Chairperson Wilburn asked Mr. Reeves if Mr. Marr had provided the requested additional information regarding the awning. Mr. Reeves stated that the initial request was the only thing that had been received. Mr. Reeves also stated that he had spoke to Doug Olds regarding the awning. Mr. Olds said that he wanted to see it made out of canvas vs. metal. But no official decision has been made about size, cost, who is going to purchase/install, etc. Ms. Lafitte stated that there are no funds available through our department for such. That would leave either Park Maintenance Dept. or Little League responsible. The awning will be required to meet set city codes.

The Commission requested additional information before the awning can begin construction.

On a motion made by Laura Allison and seconded by Butch Goodman, the item was tabled until the March meeting or if needed a special meeting would be called.

Item IV and V.

The next items were the consideration of staff revisions/additions to the Recreation and Adult Softball handbooks. Mr. Reeves stated that the only change was the following:

2007 Rule:

III SUSPENSION part B #2 – Verbally threatening game official (umpire), official Scorekeeper, or clock keeper during game: Ejection, plus minimum one (1) City-sponsored league game suspension; After game (on City Property) minimum one (1) City-Sponsored league game suspension.

2008 Rule:

Verbally abusive language or threats towards game officials, scorekeepers, clock keepers other players during a City-sponsored activity which may include but may not be limited to; racial slurs, excessive profanity, notification of the local authorities, etc. will result in a minimum six (6) game suspension. Season suspension and indefinite suspension can also be levied by the Parks and Recreation Department. These occurrences will be dealt with on an individual basis. The offender will be required to appear in person before the Denison Parks and Recreation Commission prior to further participation in a City-Sponsored activity. Persons appearing before

the Commission will receive written notification of the Commission's decision regarding their case.

Chairperson Wilburn clarified that staff would have three levels of suspension according to the severity of the offense.

1st Level - One (1) game minimum suspension

2nd Level – Six (6) game minimum suspension

3rd Level – Greater than 6. Could result in entire season or life suspension.

On a motion made by Tommy Cassidy and seconded by Bennie Sue Smith, the above revision was approved unanimously.

Item VI.

The next item on the agenda was the request from the Concerned Citizens of Denison to utilize Munson Park and Pavilion on June 14, 2008 for their annual Juneteenth Celebration. Ms. Mackey stated that this is an annual request and they would need an amplification permit for the event.

On a motion made by Tommy Cassidy and seconded by Leon Criss, the request was approved unanimously.

Item VII.

The next item on the agenda was the request from the North Texas Ringers Horseshoes League at horseshoe pits in the Waterloo Lake Regional Park. The request would include dates from March 29th, 2008 – Oct 1st, 2008.

On a motion made by Butch Goodman and seconded by Bennie Sue Smith, the schedule was approved unanimously.

Item VIII.

The next item was the consideration of signage and proposed uses for the recently acquired property located across from the Culpepper Softball Complex. Ms. Lafitte stated that this was purchased by the City of Denison and the Clara Blackford Smith & W. Aubrey Smith Foundation. She also added that staff is proposing that a sign be placed at the site to demonstrate our appreciation for the funds. The cost of the sign is an estimated \$1,500 and funding is available through the Waterloo Lake \$1.50 fund.

Ms. Lafitte added that the old maintenance building adjacent to the Armory building is a part of the property purchased. Staff is planning to utilize the front section as an area for truck, trailer, in-field groomer, etc. This will allow all to be centrally located and will save valuable time and money. She also added that the department has the capability to renovate the building in house so the expenditures are for materials only. Ms. Lafitte

stated that there are funds in the Girls Softball Account and limited funds in the maintenance account that can get the building serviceable.

She also stated that we would need additional funds for the other uses of the facility for which the Smith Foundation has indicated an interest. They could possibly fund batting cages, pitching machines, and lighting for the parking lot and inside the building. They are also interested in developing the other portion of the property into a park including picnic tables, benches, playground equipment, and lighting.

On a motion made by Butch Goodman and seconded by Bennie Sue Smith, the signage and uses were approved unanimously.

Item IX.

The last item on the agenda was the consideration of a rule/regulation requiring Commission approval prior to any work performed at any city park. Ms. Lafitte stated that there are concerned citizens that are interested in clearing brush, trees, and vines at Waterloo Lake. She added that there is an ordinance that prohibits cutting, pulling, breaking, bruising, remove or in any manner injure any tree, shrub, or deface, or in any way interfere with any chair, bench, seat, or hydrant, frame, fence, gate, or structure of any kind.

She also stated that the natural wooded area at the lake is a real asset to the lake and surrounding area. Staff is requesting that citizens must obtain a permit from the commission prior to performing any of the listed acts. Ms. Lafitte added that Staff would put this information in the newspaper and possibly send out to the local neighbors.

On a motion made by David Hudgens, and seconded by Bennie Sue Smith, the item was approved unanimously.

With no further items before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.