



**CITY OF DENISON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, November 2, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

Announce the presence of a quorum.

Commission Chair Means called the meeting to order at 1:39pm. Commissioners present were Charlie Means, Vincent Rhodes, Joel Luper, Jimmy Cravens, and Ryan Cassell. Staff present were Justin Eastwood, Director of Parks and Recreation; Virginia Cantrell, Management Assistant of Parks and Recreation; Andrew Means, Recreation Manager; Jordan Starr, Recreation Supervisor; and Connor Sweet, Recreation Coordinator.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No requests to speak cards were turned in by this point in the meeting. Therefore, no public comments were received.

3. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- A. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and take action on approving the Minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting held on September 7, 2023.

Commission Action

On motion by Commissioner Cravens, seconded by Commissioner Cassell, the Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously approved the Minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting held on September 7, 2023, as presented.

- B. Receive a report and hold a discussion on upcoming fiscal year 23/24 recreations events.

Commission Action

Andrew Means, Recreation Manager, gave an update on the upcoming fiscal year 23/24 recreations events, starting with Denison On Ice. The ice rink will officially open on November 18th, closing January 7th. The tent has been installed, contractors are currently building the rink, and staff is working with sponsors to plan private parties and themed

events. Mr. Means then went through the event schedule flyer that was included in the agenda packet, briefly touching on all planned events for 2024.

No Commission action was needed.

- C. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and take action on recommending if the annual Winter Snowball tournament funds should be allocated to other needed community recreation events.

Commission Action

Justin Eastwood, Director of Parks and Recreation, gave a report explaining the annual Winter Snowball tournament had been cancelled in 2022 and 2023 due to severe weather and unsafe travel conditions. Staff recommends we discontinue future Snowball tournaments and reallocate those funds to other activities.

Commissioner Cravens questioned if this discontinuation would be short term, and Mr. Eastwood explained things could change, but at this point it would be long term. Commissioner Cravens asked if there were replacement ideas, and Mr. Eastwood explained City staff has ideas for future signature events and other seasonal endeavors for the winter.

Commissioner Luper asked if the City offers adult softball leagues. Mr. Eastwood explained the City has not offered softball in some time; there has not been interest or resources. Commissioner Luper questioned what would be done with the fields. Mr. Eastwood explained T-Bar fields are used for other events and are often rented to the public and used for play. Commissioner Luper asked if Sherman would take over the Snowball tournament. Mr. Eastwood explained the complexities of putting on this event and stated he didn't believe Sherman had any plans to do so but couldn't speak for them.

Commissioner Cravens made the motion for funds to be allocated to other activities, seconded by Commissioner Cassell. Motion unanimously passed.

- D. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and take action on setting dates for the 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission Board meetings.

Commission Action

Justin Eastwood, Director of Parks and Recreation, gave a report explaining the presented options for 2024 Parks and Recreation Commission meetings. Commissioner Means expressed that he liked the second option presented in the agenda packet because it worked best with the school schedule. Commissioner Cassell stated that all presented dates worked for him. On a motion made by Commissioner Means and seconded by Commissioner Cassell, option 2 dates (February 15th, June 20th, September 26th, and December 5th) were unanimously selected.

- E. Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding fiscal year 23/24 projects.

Commission Action

Justin Eastwood, Director of Parks and Recreation, gave a report on fiscal year 23/24 projects. Mr. Eastwood explained that mowing bids would close on November 3rd. The soft-surface trail at Munson Park is $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way complete, and the basketball court at Munson is estimated to start in early 2024, and it will include 6 hoops. The Waterloo bridge repair has been on hold due to public works construction in the area but will resume when it is finished. The THF parking bids will close on November 6th, and the City has received lots of interest for that project. The City is hoping to get the additional parking completed before the next sport's season begins. 2024 new projects will follow the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. There is a possibility of additional pickleball courts in the future. There are plans in place to repair and update Mini Park in 2024. Waterloo Pool's operation procedures are going well with no closures due to wind. There are plans to build an upscale pavilion at the Backyard at Waterloo Lake Park, as well as a bike skills course.

No Commission action was needed.

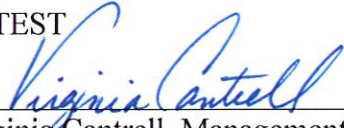
4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, the meeting adjourned at 2:01pm.



Charlie Means, Chairman

ATTEST



Virginia Cantrell, Management Assistant
Parks & Recreation