

Park Board  
October 3, 2019

A regular meeting of the City of Waxahachie Park Board was held on Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Council Conference Room, 401 South Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas.

Members Present: Chad Hicks, Chairman  
Ginger Cole, Vice Chairman  
William Major  
Byron Gibson  
Jenny Bridges

Member Absent: Betsy Bell

Others Present: John Smith, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Lori Cartwright, City Secretary  
Melissa Olson, Council Representative

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Chad Hicks called the meeting to order.

**2. Public Comments**

None

**3. Re-organize the Board**

**Action:**

*Mr. William Major moved to nominate Chad Hicks as Chairman. Ms. Ginger Cole seconded, All Ayes.*

*Mr. William Major moved to nominate Ginger Cole as Vice Chairman. Mr. Byron Gibson seconded, All Ayes.*

**4. Approval of Minutes of the Park Board meeting of August 1, 2019**

**Action:**

*Vice Chairman Ginger Cole moved to approve the minutes of the Park Board meeting of August 1, 2019. Mr. Byron Gibson seconded, All Ayes.*

**5. Discuss Park activities and take any necessary action**

Parks and Recreation Director John Smith reviewed the following Park activities:

- C10's in the Park event had 1,003 pickups registered and over 900 pickups participated. Mayor David Hill stated some participants were from Japan. He stated high-end vendors were represented and noted it is one of the best shows they have attended.
- The Chautauqua opening ceremony was September 28<sup>th</sup> and had very good speakers. Mr. Smith noted Dale Hansen was a speaker but attendance was low.

- Eagle Scout projects are underway with scouts building planter boxes, a sensory board for challenged children, Bird Houses and refresh of the Dog Park. Life School will do a litter patrol starting in Getzendaner Park and go downtown.
- Ellis County Hispanic organization recently held a successful event at Singleton Plaza.
- Oddfest event will be held October 5, 2019 in Singleton Plaza.
- The Chautauqua in Getzendaner Park will host the play "Beauty and the Beast".
- The Waxahachie Symphony will have an event at the Chautauqua on October 12, 2019.
- The Ellis County Youth organization is using Penn Park to play football on the new fields.

**6. Discuss Park projects and take any necessary action**

- Mr. Smith stated Little Creek Trail 2 mile trail is nearing completion. Pavilions are in and installation will occur soon. He announced the exercise station foundation is poured and exercise equipment will be installed soon. He stated the crew is currently working on the stretch between Brown Street and Brown Singleton Park and working on the decorative nose that are sidewalk connections and will receive the covered benches soon. Mr. Smith stated the crew is ahead of schedule. He stated once completed a grand opening will be announced.
- Mr. Smith announced he attended National Night Out on Brown Street. He stated the neighbors are very excited that there are some connections to the Little Creek Trail.
- Mr. Smith reported the drainage project in Getzendaner Park is complete and sections of the Hike and Bike Trail are still under review.
- Assistant City Manager Albert Lawrence reported the Railyard Park completion date is Mid-November. He stated they will have a soft opening with a grand opening in late March 2020. Bookings will go through the Cultural Arts & Program Manager, Kelly Skistimas, who is under the Convention and Bureau Department. He stated Ms. Skistimas has a Railyard Park facebook and twitter account. She has a domain reserved for the website and has a logo. Assistant City Manager Lawrence stated Ms. Skistimas will have a vehicle issued to her and it will be wrapped in advertisement. Mr. Smith stated the only role of the Park Department is to assist Ms. Skistimas during events.
- Mr. Smith referenced the softball field in Penn Park noting part of the next phase is irrigation on large softball field and will get a final walk through on it then will add grass and it will be ready to play.
- Mr. Smith stated the Community Theater at the Chautauqua has had improvements and will be able to book events.
- Spring Park is almost complete and staff is working on a landscape plan. The Texas Department of Wildlife donated a large sign for the boat ramp. Chairman Hicks suggested a tree made of pvc pipe be made to hang donated life jackets on. He stated the bass fishing organization is very impressed with the new Park.

- Mr. Smith stated six (6) electrical poles will be installed at Getzendaner Park for people's electrical use. He stated electric poles as well as lighting will be installed at the Oak Lawn Pavilion.
- Mr. Smith stated plants will be installed to the back of Matthew's Park in the dry bank area.

**7. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Cartwright  
City Secretary