



City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Simpson Room
401 N. Alexander Street
Belton, TX
Monday, December 5th, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.

The City of Belton Parks Board held a meeting on Monday, December 5th, 2016, in the Simpson Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Daniel Bucher, T.R. McLaughlin, Jason Wolfe, and Chair Josh Pearson. City Staff in attendance included Director of Parks and Recreation, Matt Bates, Parks Superintendent, James Grant.

1. Call to Order.

Chair Josh Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:32pm

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Consider the minutes from the October 3rd, 2016, Parks Board Workshop & Meeting.

Mr. Bucher made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously, 4-0.

4. Receive and end-of-season report from Tommy Parker, President of Belton Youth Softball Association.

Mr. Parker told the board that overall the fall 2016 season was a great success from open to close. Mr. Parker told the board that he appreciated the responsiveness from City staff throughout the season. Mr. Parker explained that the 15 U division did not make during the fall 2016 season which led to some lost revenues. Mr. Parker said that himself and the board were looking into solutions to promote more involvement in the 15 U division. Mr. Parker also mentioned to the board that the association hosted a tournament at the end of the season to benefit Jace Jefferson, a young boy who was battling cancer. The tournament raised roughly \$2,500.00. Mr. Parker explained to the board that that the association was excited heading into their Spring 2017 season. Mr. Parker mentioned that the association was returning to Texas Teenage Softball which should lead to better league and tournament play for those participating. Mr. Bucher referenced that on several occasions parking seemed to be an issue during tournaments and encouraged the City and the association to work together so that people do not park on the trail or grassy areas in the park.

5. Receive an end-of-season report from Eric Johnson, President of Belton Youth Baseball Association.

Mr. Johnson referenced that the BYBA has grown tremendously over the past year and the finances of the association have grown exponentially since his takeover. Mr. Johnson attributed a large portion of the revenue growth to the concessions sold. Mr. Johnson mentioned that there are some new board members who have joined the association and the outlook is bright for the Spring 2017 season. Mr. Johnson highlighted his list of requests that were shown on the end of season report. Mr. Johnson highlighted that many of his requests were small in nature, and some of them were ambitious. Mr. Johnson spoke to the board of how he wanted to work with the City to see some of these improvements take shape in his last term as president. Mr. Johnson mentioned the association had purchased 100 X 100 tarps and the association was working with its boards and coaches to figure out an action plan to effectively put out and remove tarps before and after rain. Mr. Johnson mentioned that BYBA switched to championship rings which were received very well by players and coaches. Mr. Johnson also explained to the board they had envisioned utilizing the practice field at Heritage for Pre- T ball teams. Mr. Bates explained to Mr. Johnson and the board

that there wasn't much of a problem with that request, but that the field is not kept to the same quality of the athletic complex fields. Mr. Johnson ended with wanting to propose the name of the complex be named 'Jace Jefferson baseball complex'.

6. Receive an end of season report from Raymond Cencerios, Lonestar Soccer Representative.

Chair Pearson tabled this item due to no association representative being present.

7. Board and/or Staff comments.

Mr. Bates informed the board about the upcoming Family, Fishin' and Fun event on December 16th and 30th- 2:00pm to 4:00pm both days. Mr. Bates explained to the board that the annual event helps promote the sport of fishing within the community and provides families who may not have a license to fish, an opportunity to fish with an exemption during the time of the event.

8. Adjourn.

Chair Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.