**PARKS AND RECREATION**

**ADVISORY BOARD**

February 8, 2016

@ 5:30 p.m.

A meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, February 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall, 1313 N. Stuart Place Road, Palm Valley, Texas.

**Board members present:**

 John Topp, Chairman

 Michael Galvan, Vice Chairman

 Julie Herrington

 Jane Mercier

 Jimmie Traylor

 Paul Powers

Absent: Sylvia Rivera

Chairman Topp called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION** – None

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2016**

J. Traylor made a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

J. Herrington seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

**DISCUSSION HELD ON A PROPOSED VETERANS’ PARK**

Charles Ramsey explained he went before the City Council with the concept and the Council asked that he appear before the Parks Board with further details followed by a recommendation from the Parks Board.

He referred to pictures that were included in the agenda packets and explained that all of part of the project could be funded through donations. The proposed location would be the property on Polo Circle that owned by the City. A bench and a table are already there. The project would consist of a flag pole, a memorial rock, pavers. The pavers could surround the base and the rock would serve as the foundation for the flag pole.

J. Mercier commented that she is completely for the project but there are no concrete costs at this time. She suggested a committee be set to address specific costs involved with a proposed memorial.

Mr. Ramsey stated that rather than asking the City for the money, the project could easily be funded through donations.

P. Powers agreed there should be a committee to study the entire concept, seek professional advice and come up with a process and specific costs by which the project will be considered.

J. Topp agreed, as well, and stated that the committee should come up with what the Board wants to recommend to the City Council.

The three members that will serve on the Committee will be Julie Herrington, Michael Galvan and Paul Powers. Mr. Bill Weeks will be invited to the meetings and Mr. Ramsey will be the Chairman. The Committee will come back in two months and present their concept and costs.

M. Galvan made a motion to table this item for further research and for the Committee to come to the Board in two months.

P. Powers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by those present.

**DISCUSSION HELD ON A PROPOSED TRIATHLON IN PALM VALLEY**

The Board heard a presentation by Rick Seija from Bicycle World. Mr. Seija, a local resident, is proposing to sponsor a ‘triathlon’ in the City of Palm Valley. The entire event consists of swimming at the Harlingen Country Club, followed by a bike ride (2-5 miles), and followed by a walk/run (3/4s-1.5 miles). This event is for participants ages 4 through 15 and would involve anywhere from 40-50 kids. The entire event will take about 3 hours tops starting at 7:30 a.m. This is a certified event and its intent is to promote a healthy lifestyle for young kids.

The costs involved for this event (trophies, ribbons, registration, marketing, etc.) will be undertaken entirely by Bicycle World. The only requirement of the City would be for the City to provide police patrol on that day. Mr. Seija added that there will be a registration fee and usually by the time you pay for the required permits, advertising, etc. there is hardly any profit gained. You either break even or lose money. Mr. Seija stated that they will hire EMS and there is usually a medical volunteer on hand at the event. They will also provide the lifeguards. Mr. Seija proposed having the event on July 1.

Discussion followed on the conflict with the date. The date conflicts with the 4th of July Parade that is held in Palm Valley. After discussion there was consensus among the Board to change the date of the Parade to July 4th, the actual date of celebration.

One of the issues that were expressed by the Parks Board was the insurance coverage for such event. Mr. Seija indicated that because this is a sanctioned event, they are required to have insurance coverage for everyone involved in the event, including volunteers. The Board requested that both the City of Palm Valley and the Harlingen Country Club be held ‘harmless’ through some kind of insurance rider. This type of ‘rider’ is to be reviewed by both the City Attorney and the Attorney for the Harlingen Country Club. The Harlingen Country Club is also supportive of this event being held here in Palm Valley.

M. Galvan made a motion to change the date of the Parade to July 4th and for Mr. Seija to move forward with the event, pending approval of the permitting process by the City Council and the presentation of all liability coverage to be approved by both the City Attorney and the Club’s attorney.

J. Traylor seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by those present.

**CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE – Budget**

J. Topp stated that approximately $4,300 was budgeted for the Lighting of the Palms Event-----$4,661.81 was spent. Therefore, the event was over budgeted by $240.00. The only saving grace would be the donation from Hino Electric in the amount of 1,342.52 that is still pending. He added that there will not be a “Fun Run” this year so that will free up money from that budget and the budgeted amount for the 4th of July Parade is $2,000.00

There being no further business, J. Herrington made a motion to adjourn. M. Galvan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

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John Topp, Chairman

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Sylvia R. Trevino, City Secretary