

Sherri

**JOINT MEETING OF THE
SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT
AND FORT SMITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Tuesday, September 13, 2011
Elm Grove Community Center at Martin Luther King Jr. Park
1815 N. Greenwood Ave.**

**Dinner Served at 5:30 p.m.
Meeting Begins at 6:00 p.m.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**

2. **REVIEW AND DISCUSS POSSIBLE JOINT PARTICIPATION PROJECTS
AT BEN GEREN REGIONAL PARK**
 - A. **Update on Trails**
 - B. **Softball Fields**
 - C. **Aquatic Center**
 - D. **Annexation**

3. **DISCUSS FUNDING OPTIONS FOR PROJECTS OF MUTUAL
INTEREST**

4. **DISCUSS TIME FRAME FOR UNDERTAKING PROJECTS OF MUTUAL
INTEREST**

5. **ADJOURN**



MEMORANDUM

September 9, 2011

TO: Mayor and Board of Directors

FROM: Ray Gosack, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Projects at Ben Geren Regional Park

One of the strategic priorities from your May 2011 retreat is **BEN GEREN PARK IMPROVEMENTS**. An action step is to meet with the Sebastian County Quorum Court. That meeting is set for Tuesday, September 13th. An agenda for the meeting is attached.

The mayor and board of directors met with the quorum court in 2009 to discuss park projects of mutual interest. A resolution passed by the board following that meeting is attached. A similar resolution was passed by the quorum court.

At Tuesday's meeting, the county officials will provide information about trail improvements, softball field improvements and options for an aquatic center at Ben Geren Park. They'll review recommended improvements and cost estimates for construction and operations.

If there's any questions or a need for more information in the interim, please let me know.

Ray

Attachments

4C

RESOLUTION NO. R-245-09

**A RESOLUTION STATING THE CITY OF FORT SMITH'S INTENT
TO WORK JOINTLY WITH SEBASTIAN COUNTY
FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BEN GEREN REGIONAL PARK**

WHEREAS, Sebastian County currently owns and operates Ben Geren Regional Park, which serves residents of Sebastian County and the Fort Smith region; and

WHEREAS, Ben Geren Regional Park has available land areas and infrastructure to enhance recreational assets for area residents and for sports tournaments which provide an economic benefit; and

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2009, the Sebastian County Quorum Court and the Fort Smith Board of Directors held a historic joint meeting to discuss collaborative projects at Ben Geren Regional Park to benefit all residents of Sebastian County and the Fort Smith area; and

WHEREAS, collaboration between Sebastian County and the City of Fort Smith for recreational facilities will enhance leisure activities for residents of Fort Smith, Sebastian County and the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the City of Fort Smith, Arkansas that:

The City of Fort Smith supports working with Sebastian County to develop mutually-beneficial recreation assets at Ben Geren Regional Park. The City Administrator is hereby authorized to work with Sebastian County officials on:

- Annexation of Ben Geren Regional Park into the city limits of Fort Smith.
- Projects of mutual interest, particularly a water park, additional softball fields, and connectivity between the city's and county's trail systems.
- Preparation of intergovernmental cooperation agreement(s) to facilitate annexation and joint funding opportunities, and to execute the intent of this resolution.

*Approver as to form
2/10
no publication required*

Other mutually-beneficial projects may also be explored. Additional joint meetings of the City of Fort Smith Board of Directors and the Sebastian County Quorum Court shall be scheduled as needed to review progress.

This Resolution passed this 20th day of October, 2009.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk