



AGENDA

Fort Smith Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting, February 8, 2023
12:00pm Creekmore Community Center

Approval of minutes from the December 14, 2022 meeting.

1. Update from Fort Smith Youth Baseball & Softball
2. Project Updates
3. Public Comments
4. Commission and Staff Comments

City of Fort Smith
Parks and Recreation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
December 14, 2022

The Parks and Recreation Commission met at noon on Wednesday, December 14, 2022 in the Rose Room at Creekmore Park Community Center.

Park Commission members present: Madeline Marquette, Chris Raible, Sandy Sanders, John McIntosh, David Roberts, Andrew Deal, and Nancy Raney.

Park Commission members absent:

Staff members present: Jeff Dingman, Doug Reinert, Sara Deuster, Linda Woodruff, and Amber Plank.

Others: James Albertson, River Albertson, Terry Bogner, Preston Davis.

Chris Raible called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. McIntosh made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Roberts and unanimously approved.

1. Project Updates

Creekmore Park – Opening night of Holiday Express was a success with a new addition of a pixel tree and tunnel for the train. The walking trail and inclusive playground are open for use. A ribbon cutting will be scheduled in the spring for both amenities.

Chaffee Crossing – Segment Two is back in the design phase. Staff and engineers are coordinating with the Janet Huckabee Nature Center regarding a portion of the trail that will go along their property.

Maybranch – Engineers have sent back all information to be put out for bid in January.

Tilles Park – An agreement for the design of the walking path, drainage, basketball courts, and frisbee golf improvements at Tilles Park is in progress.

Carol Ann Cross Park – The contract was approved by the Board of Directors. Once the contract is prepared and executed, a Notice to Proceed will be issued.

Old Greenwood & Chaffee Crossing Dog Park – Both projects are still in the design process.

2. Public Comments

River Albertson from the Boy Scout Troop 2316 presented a proposal for his Eagle Scout Project. He would like to build blessing boxes at various Parks such as Tilles, Fort Smith Park, Spradling, Woodlawn, Wilson, and Dog Park at Chaffee Crossing. The blessing boxes will be modeled off of the

current one at located at Creekmore Park. Raible made a motion to approve the project with the flexibility to work with the Parks Department on locations of the boxes being placed. The motion was seconded by McIntosh and unanimously approved.

3. Commission and Staff Comments

Terry Bogner representing the Western Arkansas Pickleball Association (WAPA) will be having a large tournament on January 15th & 16th at Kay Rogers Park with 87 people signed up.

Marquette mentioned there will be an open forum public meeting on Wednesday, January 18th at Elm Grove Community Center from 6pm-7pm to discuss the grant for Maybranch Trail. She also noted Pancakes with the Grinch was held on Saturday, December 10th, and over a 1,000 people attended. Deuster noted the department's appreciation to First United Methodist Church for volunteering to assist staff with the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54p.m.

Chris Raible, Chairman

Amber Plank, Records Coordinator