



AGENDA SUMMARY

Fort Smith Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting, Wednesday, May 11, 2011, 11:30 a.m.,
Creekmore Community Center

Announcements and Recognitions

Approval of the minutes from the April 13 meeting.

Billy Bob Williams made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Eric Pendergrass and unanimously approved.

1. Discuss naming of the River Park Events Building

After much discussion Bob Dewitt made a motion to not rename the River Park, but to maintain the same name. The motion was seconded by Bobby Aldridge and passed with 6 in favor and 1 against.

2. Discuss use of soccer fields at Spradling Park

Alex Sanchez briefed the Commission noting the need for additional soccer fields in Fort Smith. He is a member of the recently formed Western Arkansas United Soccer League (WAUSL). He noted that they have land at Chaffee Crossing, but do not have goals. The Commission discussed soccer field possibilities and asked Mike Alsup to see if the land at Chaffee Crossing is in city limits. If so the Parks Department has 2 goals that may be used there.

3. Review CIP and discuss long range plans

Alsup reviewed the proposed 2012 CIP. A priority is to complete the LWCF Conversion of the 51 acres located on Riverfront Drive. In order to accomplish this, the lease agreement with the Sebastian County Girls Softball League needs to be relinquished. The League would like to make Ben Geren Park their home location, by building two additional softball fields there, the League would agree to relinquish the lease.

4. Commission and staff comments

Alsup noted that there is an individual that has been operating a private park next to Martin Luther King Jr. Park. He is in the process of getting a conditional use permit. An agreement with the city and this individual will be presented next month for their review and comment.

Williams has been approached by individuals requesting that a dog wash station be installed at the Dog Park. In the summertime the water in the pond is stagnant and citizens need to be able to rinse their dogs before putting them in their vehicles.

5. Citizen comments

“We Create Community Through People, Parks and Programs”