

RUSSELLVILLE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Minutes from Monthly Meeting
July 11, 2019 

Present: Johnny Brazil, Dallis Clark, Jamey Ellis, Mayor Richard Harris, Greg Hines,
Alderman Chris Olson, Terry Thomas
Absent: Bryan Fisher
Person Recording: Kelli Nealy
Guests: Hannah Butler-The Courier; Nicole Hughes; Sam Hughes; Steve Newby; Lee
Smothers; Makaleigh Smothers

Terry Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:05p.
Jamey Ellis made a motion to accept the minutes from the special called meeting on 5-3-19. Greg Hines seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
Greg Hines made a motion to accept the minutes from the 5-9-19 meeting. Jamey Ellis seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

New Business

A. Wheelchair Swing-Alderman Chris Olson addressed the commission about the need for an inclusive playground in Russellville. He explained that none of our parks have a handicap swing. Discussions with local civic groups have resulted in a \$2500 donation to purchase a swing. Chris said he would like to continue soliciting donations for an inclusive playground and ask for the commission's support.

Updates

A. Dog Park-A letter has been sent to the Corps of Engineers requesting approval to develop a dog park at Pleasant View Park. Park amenities will be paid by Leadership Russellville, and a request will be presented to City Council to use funds from the one cent sales tax to pay for fencing and concrete work. A tentative start date for the project is October of this year.

B. Veterans Park-Sidewalk work continues at Veterans Park, and the flag pole has been installed. Sod work will begin as soon as the work is finished on the stage.

C. Trail Signs-New color-coded directional signs for bike and multi-use trails were shown to the commissioners. Several signs have been placed on North Phoenix in order to get feedback regarding sign location, placement, and height.

D. Park Master Plan-City Council voted in favor of using Halff + Marlar to develop a Parks Master Plan. The contract is being reviewed by the mayor.

E. Fireworks Display-This year's Community Fireworks Display was moved to the field north of the Aquatic Center. The majority of spectators viewed the show from the campus of Arkansas Tech University. The department has received positive comments about traffic flow in/out of the viewing area, however some negative comments were received about the length of the show. Hog Wild Pyrotechnics recognized that the show was shorter than stated in our contract and have agreed to give us a \$3600 credit on the invoice. A meeting was held this week to discuss the event and make notes and recommendations for next year.

F. Monthly Report-The commissioners received a copy of the department's monthly report.

G. Upcoming Events-A schedule of upcoming events was given to the commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35pm.