



Recreation & Parks Department Report February 2010

- Nine (9) groups used the Hughes Center during January for a total of 170 hours. Events included the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration and a Pro Wrestling fundraiser for the Pope County Sheriff's Reserves.
- The Parks Commission met on January 12. All commissioners were present for the meeting and appreciative that the day of the meetings has been changed to Tuesdays. A request was made by John Terry to waive the fees for use of the Hughes Center for the Kids Safe Clinic and fundraiser on Saturday, January 30. The commission voted to waive all fees as the event was open to the public and was to help kids in the community. A discussion was held with drawings and cost projections presented on lighting the three adult fields at the soccer complex. The commission is interested in trying to find funding options for this project. They want this to be the next capital project on our list. The February commission meeting was changed from February 9 to February 16 due to Mack attending the ARPA State Conference. The commission voted to allow the Advertising and Promotion Commission to utilize Pleasant View Park for the drive through Christmas Light Display based on the information given about the administration of the display. After general updates on the capital projects and upcoming events, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.
- Three incidents of vandalism were reported in December. Incidents included someone driving through the front fence at Hickey Park on East 16th Street and destroying about 100 feet of the fence, racist stickers were placed at City Park on the park signs and pavilion posts and a small fire was set in the bowl at the Skate Park.
- A fire drill was conducted at the Hughes Community Center in January.
- The lines on the gymnasium floor at the Hughes Center were painted to include two new pickle ball courts to go along with the basketball and volleyball courts. The floor was also sanded and refinished.
- The Arkansas Valley Soccer Association started a winter soccer program for their participants. They will be at the complex on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4:00pm until dark from January 12 until March 11.
- The rest rooms at Pleasant View Park softball complex were painted.
- The rest rooms at Washburn Park were struck by lightning and caught fire on January 20. The rest rooms will need to be rebuilt as they are close to a total loss.
- The North Knoxville Avenue bridge project has begun with utility companies removing trees to relocate their lines. The project is adjacent to City Park.
- Work continues at Hickey Park on the concession building. The roof has been completed, the interior walls have been painted and most of the plumbing work has been completed in the chase.
- The road signs and light poles were installed at Illinois Bayou Park. Taylor Nursery planted several plants, grasses and put in landscaping groundcover near the dock area. The dedication for the new park is scheduled for Thursday, April 1 at 11:00am.
- A new drivegate was installed on Hickey Park Field 1 to make it easier to maintain the field. It will also make it safer for the kids as the area between Fields 1 and 2 will be closed to vehicles. Vehicle traffic will also be restricted around the new concession stand when it is opened.
- The department held volleyball league registration and did not have enough teams entered to conduct a league. The department's next registration will be from March 8 to March 19 for a summer softball league.