



Recreation & Parks Department Report October 2011

- Ten (10) groups used the Hughes Center during September for a total of 154 hours. Events included an AVSA meeting and the annual Senior Health Expo.
- The Parks Commission met on September 13. The minutes from the meeting are attached.
- A memorial program for the events of September 11, 2001 was held in City Park. The Community Memorial Band and Choir, under the direction of Shirley Faulkner, performed many patriotic songs. The program ended with children releasing red, white and blue balloons into the air. The event was attended by more than 200 citizens.
- The Dover youth fishing group volunteered to pick up litter and brush on Public Lands Day. More than 100 participants picked up along Pleasant View Road and Orbit Lane. They picked up enough trash to fill a 24 foot trailer and another trailer full of brush. They were a tremendous help to the department.
- Department rentals included 17 pavilion rentals, 4 practices and a smoker grill rental.
- Musco Sports Lighting changed the bulbs in all the fixtures on Hickey Park Fields number one and six. This completes lighting improvements on all seven fields at Hickey Park.
- Seven six foot perforated metal benches were installed at the soccer complex. These benches match the existing park furniture at the site.
- Three crosswalks were installed at the soccer complex to direct park patrons to cross the street at specific locations. We hope this will make the park safer for the kids. We plan on adding signage very soon and sidewalks to help make the park as safe as possible for all who use it.
- Six of the aluminum soccer goals at the soccer complex were welded and repaired for the fall season. The youth soccer association is replacing some of the goals as needed.
- Mahle Engine Components Incorporated has become our third area group to adopt a park as they adopted Veterans Park. We are glad to have them take an interest in our parks system.
- The Russellville Police Department sponsored the fourth annual "40 Acres of Hell" triathlon. The event raises funds for the Shop with a Cop program that helps families in need.
- The Community in Unity event was held on September 30 and October 1 at James School Park. The park was painted, cleaned and any needed repairs made in preparation for the event.
- Entry forms for the annual Christmas parade were distributed to past participants. The forms are available online at www.russellvillearkansas.org and at the Hughes Center office for anyone who is interested in participating in this year's parade. The date for the parade is December 1.
- The director spoke on the upcoming KidsFest to the Arkansas Tech University Recreation and Programming class. The class does a wonderful job each year designing, building and manning the games for the annual event. This year's event will be on Monday, October 31 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at the Hughes Center. We are expecting another large crowd this year.
- Scott Sanders with Dusty Roads Construction Company donated 25 loads of top soil to the city and delivered it to Pleasant View Park. The dirt is very badly needed at the complex and will help in the development of the back area around the playground and fishing pond.
- Several loads of mulch were stored at Pleasant View Park in preparation for an Eagle Scout Project by Jackson Massey. He will prune, mulch and identify the historic trees at the park.

RUSSELLVILLE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Minutes from Monthly Meeting
September 13, 2011

Present: Marvin Collier, Andy Hatley, Theresa Herrick, Mack Hollis, Mike Johnston, Chloe Lieblong
Absent: Steve Olson, Mark Tripp
Person Recording: Kelli Nealy
Guests: Ron Knost, Brooke Smith-RV Leader, Whitney Snipes-The Courier, Students from ATU Rec. & Park Admin. Class, Amy Tarpley

The meeting was called to order at 12:05pm.

Chloe Lieblong made a motion to accept the minutes from the August meeting. Andy Hatley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Splash Pad-The commission voted during the 4-12-11 meeting to pursue a project with the Junior Auxiliary of Russellville that involves placement of a splash pad in a city park. A proposed project design was shown to the commission. The splash pad would be on a 30' x 20' concrete pad with 16 nozzles in the ground that shoot water, a water umbrella, flower shower, and fire hydrant soaker. Junior Auxiliary plans to donate approximately \$6,000 in equipment, however additional equipment must be purchased to convert the unit to commercial use. Expenses for installation and additional equipment are estimated at \$25,000. The project will be funded by sponsorships and donations. City Park was chosen over Hickey Pool as the best location because of the limited amount of time the pool is open. Marvin Collier made a motion to begin the donation campaign. Andy Hatley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

B. Capital Project #22 (Trail)-Only two capital projects remain unfinished. One of the projects consists of construction of a multi-purpose trail at the Russellville Ski Area. The commission was shown a layout of the trail system. The proposed trail will eventually connect to Orbit Lane. The tentative start date is October.

C. Capital Project #3 (Park Amenities)-The capital account designated for park amenities also remains in process. Park amenities consist of park furniture such as picnic tables, benches, misters, and trash cans. The commissioners were shown slides of the wooden picnic tables at James Park and City Park that need to be replaced with metal ones. A recommendation was made to transfer the account balances from the completed capital projects to park amenities in order to replace some of the older park equipment. Chloe Lieblong made a motion to transfer the funds to the park amenities account. Marvin Collier seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

New Business

A. Refund Policy for Pool Parties-In response to a pool party cancellation without adequate notice, it became evident that a refund policy for pool rental fees was needed. A proposed policy was read to the commission. The policy states that a two week notice must be given to receive a full refund, unless the cancellation is made because of weather or for reasons deemed necessary by the department. Chloe Lieblong made a motion to adopt the policy. Mike Johnston seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

B. Hickey Park Marquee Sign-A park sign is needed at Hickey Park. There have been two signs placed at the main entrance of the park by the gate, but the signs were destroyed. A diagram was shown of the proposed two-sided marquee sign. The new sign will be located in the middle of the main parking lot on the northern edge. Funding will be pursued through the Advertising & Promotion Commission. Costs will be presented at the next meeting.

General Update

A. Capital Projects 2011-Six of the eight capital projects scheduled to be completed in 2011 are finished. Pictures were shown of the completed projects.

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

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

D. Future Agenda Items- Budgets
Splash Pad
Hickey Park Marquee Sign
Future Capital Projects

The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm