

- Seven (7) groups used the Hughes Center during September for a total of 189 hours. Events included New Life Church services, the Guzman and Reyna Quinceaneras and meetings for AVSA and Arkansas State Employees.
- The Parks Commission did not meet in September. The next scheduled meeting is October 8 at noon in the Hughes Community Center.
- The department had 11 pavilion reservations for the month of September.
- A fire drill was conducted at the Hughes Center and the offices and jobsites were inspected. All of the department's fire extinguishers were inspected and were charged and ready if needed.
- Punt, Pass and Kick was held on September 7 at Vick Field. Area boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 15 were given the chance to compete for advancement to a sectional event. Russellville local winners have won the sectional event on several occasions and gone on to participate in Nashville, Tennessee at the regional event. Established in 1961, the PPK program is the oldest NFL Youth Football program.
- Work continues on the Wildlife Observation Trail. Striping was completed by Arkansas Line Marking. Signs identifying specific types of trees and animals that are common to the region were installed along the trail. Signs telling history of the area and identifying landmarks were also installed. Additional benches were installed for people to sit, relax and reflect. Bollards were installed to help block access to vehicles and provide safety for trail users. Work on drainage, tree pruning and general clean up will continue. We plan on dedicating the trail in October.
- R.Y.B.A. began their fall league play with 192 players. They play on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights on Fields 3, 4, 5 & 6 at Hickey Park.
- Two softball tournaments were played in September at Pleasant View Park and Shiloh Park. A total of 29 teams came to Russellville to play, shop and eat at our restaurants.
- Use of the splash pad at City Park has slowed with school starting and the cooler temperatures. Plans are to shut it down for the season sometime in October. The splash pad has been a well used facility throughout its first season of operation.
- There were two incidences of vandalism or theft during the month of September. Someone apparently needed the floor mat at the back door of the Hughes Center so they made away with it.
- Pickleball players are utilizing the Hughes Community Center on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings to play their sport. Anyone that is interested in playing this growing sport, should just show up ready to play.

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RUSSELLVILLE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION
Minutes from Monthly Meeting
October 8, 2013

Present: Marvin Collier, Theresa Herrick, Mack Hollis, Mike Johnston, Chloe Liebling, J.W. Stratton
Absent: Andy Hatley, Spence Roberts
Person Recording: Kelli Nealy
Guests: ATU Admin. Class, Jeanette Anderton-The Courier, Christie Graham, Richard Payne-AVSA

The meeting was called to order at 12:15pm.

Marvin Collier made a motion to accept the minutes from the August meeting. Chloe Liebling seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Aquatic Center-This agenda item was tabled until November.

New Business

A. Richard Payne, AVSA President-Arkansas Valley Soccer Association President, Richard Payne, addressed the commission. He explained that enrollment numbers for the 2013 fall session are nearly as much as the combined enrollment for spring and fall last season. Typically, AVSA uses the soccer complex from March 1 – April 30 and September 1 – October 31 each year. AVSA is responsible for paying the water bill for the sprinkler system at the complex. Due to the level of play at the complex occurring year round, AVSA would like the city to pay the cost of the sprinkler system, as well as maintain the fields during the eight months that AVSA isn't using them. Mack Hollis explained that if the city agreed to pay the water expense for soccer, the same would have to be done for the baseball and softball leagues. The commissioners would like to pursue the possibility of the city paying the expenses for the sprinkler system.

B. Shiloh Park Restrooms-A check for \$10,000.00 was received from the insurance company for damages to the restrooms at Shiloh Park. Estimated cost of repairs for the project is \$19,700.00. The city council is being asked at the October meeting to appropriate the additional funds to repair the restrooms. Repairs must be completed prior to the 2014 tournament season in March. In addition, the 2014 Advertising & Promotion budget includes a request for A & P to pay half the cost of building new restroom facilities at the park. The city will be asked to pay the remaining half.

C. 2014 Special Budget-The commissioners received a copy of the 2014 proposed special programs budget. Marvin Collier made a motion in favor of the budget. Chloe Liebling seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

D. 2014 A & P Request-The commissioners received a copy of the 2014 proposed A & P budget. As discussed earlier in the meeting, the budget includes a request for \$50,000 to cover half the cost to build new restrooms at Shiloh Park. Mike Johnston made a motion in favor of the proposal. Marvin Collier seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

E. Ordinance #1190-This agenda item was tabled.

F. Special Events/Gatherings at Hughes Community Center-According to Fire Marshal Richard Setian and City Inspector Brian Holstein continual events occurring in the Hughes Center gym are out of compliance with the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code. Ninety-nine percent of events in the gym are one-time special events. The commissioners were asked to make a recommendation of how many times an organization can rent the gym each year before it becomes a continual event. Chloe Liebling made a motion to allow organizations to rent no more than three times per year. Marvin Collier seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

G. Waco Avenue Detention Basin-This agenda item was tabled until November.

Updates

A. R.H.S. Field Renovation Plans (Hickey Park)-The plans submitted by Russellville High School to renovate Fields 1 and 6 at Hickey Park are currently on hold. According to the Attorney General, school funds cannot be spent on non-school property.

B. 2013 Summer Softball Financial Statement-The commissioners received a copy of the department's 2013 adult summer softball financial statement. Twenty-seven teams participated in the summer league, and the program recorded a profit of \$1,277.61.

C. L.W.C.F. Grant (Soccer Lights)-The department received a letter from the Department of Parks & Tourism confirming receipt of the L.W.C.F. Grant application. The grant is a 50/50 matching grant with funds being used to light the soccer complex.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm.