

**City of Truth or Consequences
Recreation Advisory Board
Regular Meeting
3/6/2018 6 PM
MINUTES**

6:00 pm Regular Meeting of the Recreation Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico to be held at the Recreation Department Building, 2800 S. Broadway, Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

INTRODUCTION:

ROLL CALL:

Greg D'Amour, Chair- Present
Destiny Mitchell- Present
Isabelle Sheele- Absent
Ed Ragsdale- Present
Christie Conklin- Absent

*Vice-Chair Mitchell agreed to take minutes in the absence of Secretary Sheele.

Meeting called to order by Chair D'Amour at 6:08pm. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

1. Approval of Agenda- Ragsdale approved Agenda, Mitchell seconded. Motion passed.
2. Approval of Minutes for Regular meetings of 2017- Mitchell Motioned to approve, D'Amour seconded, minutes were signed. Feb minutes were email and were approved as well.
3. Comments from the Public-
 - a. Friends of the Pool Co-Chair Sue Whiteside was present with Secretary Colliesue Lawson. Colliesue informed the board that the Friends of the Pool was formed in 2015 by Millie McCleod and Jane Greene, the latter who has since passed. Originally was formed to get a pool cover. They have annual membership and they want to help keep the pool open for the community. Randle Lawson took over in 2015. Since then they have gotten more members. They do a lot of fundraising in order to purchase equipment, flotation devices, noodles, lawn furniture, cabinets and mats. She said that the resurface had been completed in January of 2018. They expect the pool to open the mid-end of April as per an update from Tracy Johnson who attended a meeting last month. They are planning a Grand Re-opening in April. Their board meets the 2nd Thursday of the month. Colliesue said she was referred to the Rec Board by Tracy, but she wasn't sure why. Vice-Chair Mitchell explained that the purpose of the RAB was to be the liaison between the public, City staff, and City Commissioners parks and

recreational needs. They are open to taking suggestions from the public and networking between the City and the Public.

- b. Zena Griego spoke to the board on behalf of her work with the Girls Scouts. For her Silver Badge/award, she planted trees around the ballfields and even installed drip system for them. For her Gold badge/award she would like to build a playground at the LASC, similar to one at the "Dinosaur Park," on 8th and Kopra. She has a plan to raise funds for the project, research designs, and was seeking input from the RAB and Parks Director. Chair D'Amore pointed to a location on the maps on the wall that showed where the RAB had discussed placing a playground in the past. Vice-Chair Mitchell stated that a proposal for a playground had been brought up by the softball boards several years ago, but has not yet come to fruition. Griego stated that she had been in contact with the softball leagues already. Vice-Chair Mitchell also suggested that she speak with Matt Felts and Rene Guaderrama about T-Ball, Little League, and Soccer Field placements, as well as for fundraising opportunities. Mitchell applauded Griego's efforts on taking on such a much needed task and those in attendance applauded her gumption as well. Rec Director Hechler commented that he lost his two front teeth playing on monkey bars as a child while his father played softball in another state. He exchanged contact information with Griego and expressed support of the concept and said they would be in touch.
 - c. Carole Wheeler brought up once again the backboard at the tennis courts. The board discussed that this issue had been brought up several times in the 2017 minutes, and that previous director Peter Baca had purchased all of the materials needed to install a backboard for practice at the Tennis Courts but the project had stalled since the City did not have a qualified welder at the time. Hechler stated that he thought there was a welder in the Facility Maintenance department and that he would look into. He made copies of Carole's documents and planned to address it in the near future.
4. Recreation Department Needs Assessment/Update- Chair D'Amour stated that he thought that Rec Director Hechler would be giving a presentation to the commission on the 14th on the Ball Fields updates. Hechler added that they were still looking for a contractor for the soccer field. He said that \$16,000 worth of grass seed had been purchased, but he was waiting to seed until they had the sprinkler-timing system up and running otherwise it was a waste. D'Amour surmised that all parts were needed for this projects final completion.
5. Swimming Pool Update- Since the Friends of the Pool had already given a very thorough update, there were only a few things added. Hechler commented that he was under the impression that the new interim pool manager, Tammy Gardener, would be attending. Mitchell stated that she had met with Gardener the previous week and had learned that

she had obtained her CPO (certified pool operator license,) and that they had several applicants for lifeguards. Mitchell said she would forward Lifeguard Instructor information to Gardener so that she or another City staff could obtain their instructor license. Mitchell explained that her license would probably lapse come June and that she did not wish to renew it unless it was absolutely necessary.

6. Dog Park development- Wheeler presented detailed figures on the dog park for the months of Dec and Jan. She said they had registered over 200 dogs in the past two months and had over 800 monitored* dogs/visitors to the park in that time. She explained that these figures were only based on the times that a park monitor was on hand. There were nearly as many hours unmonitored as monitored. Wheeler explained that she was surprised to see so many tourists from all over the US, especially the colder states, and that she was thrilled at all of the wonderful comments she was receiving. She presented a document that she intends to report to the commission asking for three items. 1) installation of a water faucet, 2) installation of an electrical outlet, and 3) a request for grounds maintenance from the Parks and Rec dept. She said that she was still trying to get the word out and doing fundraisers and setting up donation jars and such. She said they are using raised funds for the majority of their costs and that there was still a lot of grant money that had not yet been touched. She commented that John Hendry has been an angel for the park.
7. Other Business/Discussion- Adjournment made by Mitchell at 6:49pm.

Recommendations from Recreation Advisory Board to City of TorC Commission for Meeting Held on March 5th, 2018:

No recommendations at this time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. H.', is written over the text 'No recommendations at this time.'.

NEXT RECREATION BOARD MEETING

April 2nd, 2018

Recreation Department Building

2800 S. Broadway 6PM