



*"A Place Where Everyone Matters"*

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of the**  
**Parks and Recreation Board**  
200 S. Main Street  
Thursday, July 11, 2019  
6:00 p.m.

**1. Call to Order / Roll Call.**

The meeting was called to order by Rebekah Land, Vice Chair, at 6:00 p.m.

Board members present: Rebekah Land, Vice Chair, Gina Kern, Secretary; John Metcalf; and Cameron Reeves.

Staff members present: Dudley Raymond, Director of Parks and Recreation; Paul Naughton, Landscape Architect; Matt Furr, Parks Superintendent; and Patty Kendzie, Senior Administrative Assistant.

Shannon Crawford entered the meeting at 6:05 pm.

**2. Consider and act upon approval of the Minutes from the June 13, 2019, Regular Meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board.**

Motion to approve the Minutes by Metcalf. Second by Reeves. Approved 4-0.

**3. Comments by the Public.**

There were no comments by the public.

**4. Discussion about the Town's hike and bike trails and possibly appoint Board members to serve on a Hike and Bike Trail Master Plan Steering Committee.**

Naughton showed the Hike and Bike Trail Plan graphic and a graphic which detailed trail segments. There are currently 32.8 miles of trail on the ground. Based on the current Master Plan, 101 miles are left to build.

The Town is preparing to be under contract with Halff Associates to begin a Hike and Bike Master Plan. Input will be sought from the community via an online survey and also by a Steering Committee, which will be assembled after the contract is awarded. Crawford expressed an interest in serving on the committee and Kern asked how the Board could get involved. Naughton said Board and Town Council members are welcome to apply to volunteer. The award will go to Council on July 26, 2019. The process is expected to take about a year, similar to the Master Plan. The goal is to create a Council-approved plan for staff to use as a guide in development.

**5. Discussion with staff regarding pricing policy for recreation programs.**

Raymond described the pricing policy in place for recreation programs, which is based on a model frequently used by municipalities. The policy should be viewed as a guide, as the system is new. He gave examples of types of programs that will and will not incur charges. Ultimately, after programs are up and running and sustainable, pricing will be per the model to avoid making decisions based on emotion. When there is a charge to attend a program, there is a higher perceived value.

Funds may be limited at some point as everyone is competing for dollars. The goal is not to become rich, but for people pay a market rate for what they get.

Crawford asked where the money goes and what it is used for if a class makes a profit. Raymond described the budget of accounts and income. Extra money does not come back to a department, it goes into the General Fund. Whatever is budgeted for costs, we try to offset with income, yet a high cost recovery percentage for the entire department is difficult due to parks maintenance.

Raymond said as programs are added, the pricing policy will be implemented. At some point, a membership fee may be charged.

Reeves commented that seniors pay taxes, yet what do they get? Raymond said it's important to look at the use of tax dollars in totality. At The 407 Rec Center, some things will be free, some things will not. At the onset, it might not be possible to recover instructor costs, yet we will try to. Activities such as trips will incur a charge, with the goal of fully recovering those costs.

Raymond said the first activities slated for The 407 Rec Center will be offered to Active Adults (those age 55 and over), and include various card games and two instructor-led classes: Beginner Chair Exercise and Strength-Core-Balance. It's critical to note that the sole purpose for the building is recreational programming. The building capacity is 30-40. Staff will attend the next Prosper 5-0 meeting to inform the group about the new Active Adult activities and gauge interest in activities.

Land said it is good the ball is rolling.

## **6. Informational items.**

### **a) Recreation Update**

Raymond said registrations are strong this summer. He presented a slide which compared Prosper's population growth with the number of classes offered. We are tracking well. The chart will be brought back to the Board every six months. Metcalf thanked Trevor Helton, Recreation Services Coordinator, for creating the chart, and said it appears we are offering what is needed, proportionate with the growth rate.

### **b) Park Development Update**

Naughton gave updates on the Entry Monument Sign on Preston Road and the Star Trace Park playground in the Star Trail development. The current agreement stipulates the developer will maintain the playground for the life of the park. He described the various hike and bike trails along Prosper Trail that are currently under development.

### **c) Park Operations Update**

Furr said crews are working in shifts due to the heat. Ballfields are being readied for sports starting up in August. Twenty-five truckloads of sand have been delivered for topdressing. Three large pecan trees were lost in recent bad weather and also an oak tree in Whitley Place. A PYSC meeting is coming up which most likely will include discussions on field space. Furr said it's important for fields to be closed on Wednesdays for watering and/or rest. Metcalf asked if storms have a budget impact. Furr said money is budgeted for that purpose.

**7. Discussion regarding any miscellaneous business or items to be placed on future Agendas.**

Land requested to attend the PYSC meeting and also asked that Drake Dunn be added to an upcoming Agenda to provide updates about field utilization, fees and food trucks. She suggested topics to discuss are: numbers coming in, growth projection and whether there was any backlash due to the increase of sports fees. Raymond said leagues reported no downturn in growth and minimal backlash to the new fees.

Reeves suggested the August meeting could be held at The 407 Rec Center.

**8. Adjourn.**

Motion by Reeves. Second by Kern. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. Approved 5-0.

  
Gina Kern, Secretary