

Houston Parks and Recreation
Park Board Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2023

Members Present: Amy Smith, Sheena Postlewait, Stetson Evetts, Preston Wade, Larry Benoist, Jeff Richardson and Wendy Sholtz

Guests: Shelia Walker, Kevin Stilley, Angie Stilley, Angie Gettys, Jeremy St. John, and Robbie Smith

Meeting was called to order by Secretary, Wendy Sholtz at 6:02 p.m.

Minutes from the last meeting were read, Sheena Postlewait made a motion to accept minutes, 2nd was made by Stetson Evetts, motion passed by all who were present.

Sports-

Swim team had 16 swimmers sign up. Everything is running smoothly.

Swimming lessons have 89 kids signed up. The first round of swim lessons is happening this week, with the second to happen next week.

Soccer- So far 16 players have signed up, signups will run until July 25th.

End of season sports parties- Party is scheduled for July 25th from 12:00-6:00.

Hamburgers will be served at 5:00. Admission will be free for all sports participants and coaches. Robbie is making cards for the coaches that will work as a free 1 day family pass to either the pool or golf course.

Robbie Smith is going to help cook burgers.

New Business

Bridges Park- a plan has been made to keep it simple with walking paths, pavilions, bbq grills, and a fence.

Old Business

Sports Complex- Robbie presented handouts from architecture firms concerning future build sites. This info will be given to the City Council to help with the decision making process. Robbie has started the process to collect bids for the quadplex.

Park updates- The new digger is here. Robbie is going to talk to the school to see if their welding department would be interested in helping to build the grills for the parks.

Pickleball Court- Robbie is going to paint the court and place the net once the court is dry. A new grounds employee for the golf course is in the works. After they are hired and trained, Robbie will have time to work on this project, and more.

Tennis Court- parts of the asphalt are missing. The holes were made from removing fence posts. Robbie is going to look into fixing the problem.

Emmett Kelly Park's basketball court needs to be straightened. It requires the help of several people to help shift the tiles. Robbie Smith has volunteered the fire department to assist during their next training day.

Pool Update- Pumps are temporarily fixed. Robbie has contacted Westport, they are requesting the city pay a service fee in order to get a technician out. Robbie is going to find out what the service fee will cost, and see what the next steps need to be to get a more permanent fix.

Pool Staffing- Drug tests have been performed, all employees have passed.

Misc-

Sports Academy- Jeff Richardson gave a brief overview of a Sports Academy that the school is putting together. This program will focus on skill building for kids from the area for grades 3-6. The sports that will be offered are: basketball, baseball and football. The goal is for the school to take over the responsibilities of these sports, with some help from the Parks and Recreation Department. This first year of the program they are going to focus on basketball. In the future the school will host these sports and the Parks and Rec Dept will still coordinate spring and fall soccer.

Golf Tournament- This summer's tournaments have gone well. All proceeds have gone towards the purchase of a reel mower. Robbie has suggested that we wait to make the purchase until after irrigation can be purchased and installed. The funds for the mower will be earmarked in the bank account.

Expense history- The board was given the expense reports. Robbie is going to work with Dulcy at City Hall to try and make the Parks accounting process easier.

A motion was made by Amy Smith to adjourn the meeting, Sheena Postlewait 2nd, all approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

The next meeting will be August 8th at 6:00 p.m.