



MINUTES

The Gilmer Park's Advisory Board meeting convened in regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, August 14, 2023, at Gilmer Civic Center, 1218 US Hwy 271 N, Gilmer, Texas.

The following members were present:

Chairman John McWhorter
Member Benjamin Dodd
Member Willie Grant

Vice-Chair Todd Stansbury
Member Emma Smith
Member Lucy Winn

The following members were absent:

Member Steve Stewart

The following staff was present:

Greg Hutson, City Manager
Lisa Long, Civic Center Director
Michael Chevalier, City Councilmember/Ex-Officio Parks Board

Kimberly Smith, TRMC, MMC, City Secretary
Tim Marshall, Gilmer City Mayor

Other Attendees:

Stan Hayes, Hayes Engineering
Jimi Murray, Red River Recreation

David Barnes, Red River Recreation
Ike Fluellen, Resident

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John McWhorter at 5:30 p.m.

Invocation

Vice-Chairman Todd Stansbury said the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Member Ben Dodd led us in the Pledge of Allegiance

II. Public Comments

Ike Fluellen stated that Mt. Pleasant Parks and Pittsburgh Parks are not maintained by the city and are nice parks.

III. Items to Consider

1. Consider, discuss, and take possible action approving Minutes from February 6, 2023.

Member Ben Dodd made a motion to approve minutes from February 6, 2023, second by Vice-Chairman Todd Stansbury and a vote of 6/0 for approval.

2. Consider and discuss Parks Projects Financials.

City Manager Greg Hutson gave an update on Abney Park to the board.

City Manager Greg Hutson went over the financials line by line with the board. There was much discussion regarding the funding for the park's projects.

Member Willie Grant stated people will donate if they can have naming rights.

3. Consider, discuss, and make recommendations to City Council to approve Gilmer City Park Phase 1 Preliminary Plans.

Member Willie Grant left the meeting at 6:03 pm.

Stan Hayes, Hayes Engineering, explained to the board the preliminary plans for Gilmer City Park. All dirt work will be used with existing dirt; there will be no need of any new dirt brought in. There are existing water and sewer lines that will be used to tie in for the concession stands and restrooms. Each field will have its own concession stand and restrooms. It was recommended by the board to add an umpire room attached to the concession stand, and an 8 ft overhang on the roof. The umpires' room will be 10 x 12 on the west side of the concession stand. Each concession stand will have two serving windows. The board also recommended a 4 ft overhang on the restrooms. There will be 4 stalls in the women's bathroom and two stalls and two urinals in the men's bathroom. The parking lot will start at the end of the existing driveway and will wrap around the fields. The back stops will have netting and the dugouts will be made of the same material as the buildings. There will be batting cages by the baseball field and one by the softball field. There is a power line that runs through the middle of the property and will be rerouted around the fields.

Stan Hayes recommended the project should be done as a whole and not done in pieces. When you start piecing things together, it doesn't always look good. The board and council will need to decide if they will work with TIPS or go out for bids and if the project will be done in phases or done as a whole. The project can't move forward until there is a finished design.

Vice-Chair Todd Stansbury left the meeting at 6:28 pm.

The board discussed possibly giving naming rights for donations.

David Barnes, Red River Recreation, will give the city a cost and choices for the playground.

Another Parks Board Meeting will be called to consider and discuss recommendations made at this meeting.

Member Ben Dodd made a motion recommending to City Council approving the Gilmer City Park Phase 1 Preliminary Plans with the following recommendations: adding an umpire's room on the concession stand with an 8 ft overhang on the concession stands, and adding a 4 ft overhang on the restrooms , with a second by Member Emma Smith, and a vote of 4/0 approval.

IV. Adjourn

Member Ben Dodd made a motion to adjourn, with a second by Member Lucy Winn and a vote of 4/0 for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Kimberly Smith, TRMC, MMC, City Secretary