

MINUTES
BEN GEREN PARK BOARD MEETING
August 11, 2008
12:00 Noon

The regular meeting of the Ben Geren Park Board was held at 12:00 noon, August 11, 2008, at the Ben Geren Park Community Building, 7200 Zero, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Present were:

Mr. Wayne Hancock
Mr. Frank Glidewell
Mr. Bud Harper
Mr. Eddy Beshears
Mr. Jerry Neel

Others present were:

Hon. David Hudson, Sebastian County Judge
Mr. Jerry Roberts, Assistant County Administrator
Mrs. Sue Reed, Sebastian County Comptroller
Mr. Joe Gaa, Park Administrator
Mr. Steve Nicholls, P.G.A. Golf Professional
Mr. Bobby Faulkner, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Mrs. Paula Vincent, Administrative Secretary
Ms. Mary Crider, Times Record

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 Noon by Mr. Wayne Hancock, Chairman.

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 14, 2008, Mr. Eddy Beshears moved and Mr. Frank Glidewell seconded that they be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was the Monthly Financial Reports. A total of \$108,436.09 for the Golf Course and \$4,725.16 for the Front Side was transferred to County Treasurer for July 2008. It was moved by Mr. Bud Harper and seconded by Mr. Jerry Neel that they be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The Agents for signing checks on the Ben Geren Regional Park checking account need to be updated. Mr. Bud Harper moved, Mr. Frank Glidewell seconded, that Judge David Hudson, Mr. Gerald Roberts, Mr. Jerry Neel, and Mr. Wayne Hancock be authorized agents on the Ben Geren Regional Park checking account and that all agents exercise all of the powers listed in the resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was briefing on golf course marketing plan by Mr. Steve Nicholls. The July newsletter was mailed Thursday, July 3, 2008. We participated in a Play Golf America program, Take your Daughter to the Course week, July 7-13. Radio ads are ongoing. The Tuesday afternoon radio golf league has grown to twenty players. We are offering a weekday only Heat of the Day August special from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 18 holes with cart for \$29. Thirty-three golfers have taken advantage of this special the first six days of August. We are working on a Stay and Play package with three hotels. The August newsletter has been mailed. We have sold 15 Cheaper by the Dozen specials and 42 Triple 5 specials. We hosted the ASGA tournament again this year. There were two good articles in the newspaper.

The next item on the agenda was Park Administrator Report by Mr. Joe Gaa. The softball lighting project is going well. Two Park Rangers have been hired. It has been a good summer.

The first item on the agenda under old business is Gator Golf. Brent Yocum has terminated his agreement effective July 30, 2008, leaving adequate equipment to open for business. A seasonal worker has been hired and park staff is doing small maintenance projects. The first weekend open was hot and revenue was low. The second weekend revenue improved.

The second item on the agenda under old business is Wanna Be Racing. Dan Bardin is requesting to move forward with the proposed re-roofing project and the proposed fencing project. At the recommendation of Mr. Joe Gaa, the consensus of the Board is to approve moving forward with the re-roofing project as requested. However, the fencing project must be scheduled through Mr. Joe Gaa in coordination with removing the old track.

There were no items on the agenda under new business.

Mr. Mike Henson with Baldor has requested permission to allow a black hawk helicopter to land in the park for display during their company picnic on September 13. It will be staffed and secured. At the recommendation of Mr. Joe Gaa, the consensus of the Board is to approve this request.

The last item on the agenda is park revenue reports that are included in the packet.

Judge's Comments: We are beginning to work on the 2009 budget, including golf course operations and financial analysis. Work on the park strategic plan has slowed due to operational issues that need to be addressed. Park projects include a bike trail which has been funded and the softball lighting project which is in progress.

It was moved by Mr. Eddy Beshears and seconded by Mr. Jerry Neel that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Paula Vincent
Administrative Secretary