

MINUTES
BEN GEREN PARK BOARD MEETING
July 14, 2008
12:00 Noon

The regular meeting of the Ben Geren Park Board was held at 12:00 noon, July 14, 2008, at the Ben Geren Park Community Building, 7200 Zero, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Present were:

Mr. Bud Harper
Mr. Eddy Beshears
Mr. Jerry Neel

Absent were:

Mr. Wayne Hancock
Mr. Frank Glidewell

Others present were:

Mr. Jerry Roberts, Assistant County Administrator
Mr. Joe Gaa, Park Administrator
Mr. Steve Nicholls, P.G.A. Golf Professional
Mr. Bobby Faulkner, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Mrs. Paula Vincent, Administrative Secretary
Mr. Tim Pitlick, President, Ben Geren Softball Association
Mr. Joe Mundy, 3rd Vice President, Ben Geren Softball Association
Ms. Mary Crider, Times Record

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 Noon by Mr. Bud Harper, Acting Chairman.

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 9, 2008, Mr. Eddy Beshears moved and Mr. Jerry Neel seconded that they be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was the Monthly Financial Reports. A total of \$103,880.17 for the Golf Course and \$7,378.22 for the Front Side was transferred to County Treasurer for June 2008. According to Mr. Steve Nicholls, year-to-date rounds are catching up. The golf course had a good month of June. Revenue for June 2008 is comparable to June 2006 which was our best year. The first thirteen days of July 2008 exceed the first thirteen days of July 2006 in rounds and revenue. We are averaging 166 rounds per day, of which 131 are paid round. It was moved by Mr. Jerry Neel and seconded by Mr. Eddy Beshears that they be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was briefing on golf course marketing plan by Mr. Steve Nicholls. We had our annual Four-ball Tournament with 72 players, the River Valley Seniors Tournament, and the Senior Amateurs Tournament with 50 players. The July newsletter was mailed Thursday, July 3, 2008. Two other ongoing promotions include Cheaper by the Dozen of which 12 have been sold and Triple 5's which continues to be popular. We are adding at least three golfers to our data base each week. We participated in a Play Golf America program, Take your Daughter to the Course week, July 7-13. Mr. Bud Harper

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expressed the Board's appreciation to Steve Nicholls for the number of programs he has and his efforts which are reflected in the total amount of play and revenue.

The next item on the agenda was Park Administrator Report by Mr. Joe Gaa. The softball lights equipment arrived today. Funding for an additional full-time park maintenance position was approved by the Quorum Court at their June meeting. The ribbon cutting for the building at East Sebastian County Park has been rescheduled and will be on July 22 at 7:00 p.m.

There were no items on the agenda under old business.

The first item on the agenda under new business was a request from KISR radio station to hold an event in Ben Geren Park at Pavilion #2 on Saturday, August 16, 2008, to celebrate KISR's 36th Birthday. At the recommendation of Mr. Joe Gaa, Mr. Eddy Beshears moved and Mr. Jerry Neel seconded that this request be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

The second item on the agenda under new business was a request from the Arthritis Foundation, Arkansas Chapter, to hold the first Arthritis Walk at Ben Geren Park on Saturday, September 27, 2008. At the recommendation of Mr. Joe Gaa, Mr. Jerry Neel moved and Mr. Eddy Beshears seconded that this request be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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.

Mr. Joe Gaa presented Sebastian County Parks Strategic Plan 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Vincent
Administrative Secretary