

MINUTES  
BEN GEREN PARK BOARD MEETING  
March 10, 2008  
12:00 Noon

The regular meeting of the Ben Geren Park Board was held at 12:00 noon, March 10, 2008, at the Ben Geren Park Community Building, 7200 Zero, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Present were:

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

Absent were:

Mr. Eddy Beshears

Others present were:

Hon. David Hudson, Sebastian County Judge  
Mr. Tom Minton, 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  
Mr. John Glidewell  
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. Jerry Neel, Chairman.

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2008, Mr. Wayne Hancock 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 \$28,115.51 for the Golf Course and \$170.00 for the Front Side was transferred to County Treasurer for February 2008. Mr. Wayne Hancock moved and Mr. Frank Glidewell seconded that the financial reports for February 2008 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 are continuing to track daily weather rating from the weather channel and daily revenue on a graph. Revenue follows along with the weather. A February newsletter went out with an offer to buy one round and get one round free. A March newsletter included golf news, golf tip of the month, and greens aerifying information. Mike has done a lot of spraying for weeds and is aerifying this week using deep tines. Small tines will be used in May following the Nationwide qualifying. Our March golf calendar is filling up.

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Leagues have begun. On Friday, February 29, we offered a Leap Year Special for \$29 which included green fee, cart, and lunch. Eighty golfers took advantage of this special. Our 9 for \$199 offer has concluded. Triple 5's promotion is ongoing.

A proposal was distributed recommending that there be no changes in 2008 golf rates which will be effective April 1, 2008, through March 31, 2009. An annual ticket program was implemented in 2007. Nine golfers have used all the rounds on their tickets this year. They have continued to play paying a reduced green fee. Mr. John Glidewell asked the board to consider other options. Following discussion, Mr. Wayne Hancock moved, Mr. Frank Glidewell seconded, that 2008 golf rates be approved as recommended. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Glidewell was thanked for his comments and for being a good customer at Ben Geren Golf Course.

The only item on the agenda under new business is request from Girl Scouts for a fundraiser in Ben Geren Park at Pavilion 2 on Saturday, April 26, 2008. There being no conflicts on the calendar, Mr. Wayne Hancock moved, Mr. Bud Harper seconded, that the request be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

Judge Hudson introduced Mr. Joe Gaa, Park Administrator. In order to complete commitments to the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, he is dividing his time between teaching and the County until May. First priorities are the softball complex and softball lights and park master planning process and surveying process. His background includes grant writing, administrative reviews and needs assessments, and work with nonprofit organizations.

Mr. Gaa said he has looked at the softball lighting and will be meeting on it. Master planning will take about a year and will be done in coordination with Judge Hudson.

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

It was moved by Mr. Wayne Hancock and seconded by Mr. Frank Glidewell that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Vincent  
Administrative Secretary