

MINUTES
BEN GEREN PARK BOARD MEETING
September 8, 2008
12:00 Noon

The regular meeting of the Ben Geren Park Board was held at 12:00 noon, September 8, 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. Joe Gaa, Park Administrator
Mr. Steve Nicholls, P.G.A. Golf Professional
Mr. Bobby Faulkner, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Mrs. Paula Vincent, Administrative Secretary

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 August 11, 2008, Mr. Frank Glidewell moved and Mr. Bud Harper seconded that they be approved as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was the Monthly Financial Reports. A total of \$81,078.20 for the Golf Course and \$16,403.07 for the Front Side was transferred to County Treasurer for August 2008. They were approved as submitted. Golf course revenue and expenses were both down for the month, while Park revenue and expenses were both up for the month. According to Steve Nicholls, the City Championship was postponed until September 27-28 due to rain. According to Joe Gaa, miniature golf revenue was almost what he projected.

The next item on the agenda was briefing on golf course marketing plan by Mr. Steve Nicholls. Revenue from the Heat of the Day August special was \$4,408 (152 golfers). The August newsletter is being returned for the 50% off green fee and the September newsletter has been mailed. We participated in Patriot Golf Day over the Labor Day weekend. Donations benefit families of soldiers who have become disabled or lost their life in the line of duty. Our Air National Guard partnered with us by providing ball caps, water bottles, and tees to give away. Donations from golfers totaled \$633. Our radio advertising is ongoing and the September special is \$29 for 18 holes with cart when you tee off from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The next item on the agenda was Park Administrator Report by Mr. Joe Gaa. The softball lighting project is way behind. They are consistently working on it now. Two fields are supposed to be completed within the next couple of weeks, then they will finish the others. Our two Park Rangers are featured in the Times Record Monday Matters article on September 8. Part of the Strategic Plan is to have various focus groups complete a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. The park board, one of the focus groups, was given an analysis form. The recent rain has been good on the golf course water budget and bad on maintenance, requiring additional mowing. The Dawg Daze Soccer Tournament was September 6-7. There were a lot of people in the park.

There were no items on the agenda under old business.

The first item on the agenda under new business is Sheriff's Department request to hold a Safety Fair on Saturday, October 4, 2008, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. in Ben Geren Park at Pavilion 2 and that any fees be waived. Mr. Frank Glidewell moved, Mr. Eddy Beshears seconded, that this request be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

The second item under new business is request from Terry Blanton to host an Ace Race Disc Golf Tournament on Saturday, October 11, 2008, beginning at 12 noon, at Ben Geren Park's Disc Golf Course and that any fees be waived. This event is endorsed by the Western Arkansas Flying Disc Association, Inc. and any profit made from the event will be used by WAFDA to further promote disc sports. At the recommendation of Mr. Joe Gaa, Mr. Eddy Beshears moved, Mr. Bud Harper 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 and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Vincent
Administrative Secretary