

Harvey County Parks Advisory Board

Meeting – East Park

March 21, 2016

Members present: Carolyn Schwab, Pat Jackson, Carol Buller, Brandon Wills, Zack Phillips, Cynda Conrade, Ron Hoffman

Members Absent: Jim Lasiter, Bill Kiehl

Staff Present: Parks Director, Kass Miller & Operations Supervisor, Derrick Richling

Minutes: February minutes were approved as submitted.

Introductions: Zack welcomed Ron Hoffman as a new member of the advisory board. Prospective applicants, Jack Bender III & Brittany Welch were introduced to the board & both gave a brief summary of their background & reason for applying for membership (copy of their applications are attached to the secretary minutes).

Operations Report – Derrick Richling:

- **Camp Hawk** – No Report
- **West Park** – New culvert between the lake & swim beach has been installed. Plan to start spraying as soon as wind calms down. Bath House is open on the west side.
- **East Lake** – Have been burning around terraces & berms. Doing ground work around the old barn area at horse trail head. Working on leveling the camping pads. Some playground equipment needs repair. Did some rewiring in some areas of the restroom/bath houses. In general, doing maintenance work for the upcoming season.

Kass & Derrick will be attending 3 day of classes for “Debris Management” in Newton. Derrick also will be taking his water & waste management qualification tests.

Ron Hoffman asked about the height of the tower at East Lake & also the use of orange/red lights in the park as storm/tornado warning system.

Directors Report – Kass Miller

- **West Park** – The ad for bait shop employees has closed. They plan to hire to people part time to keep hours under 40 hours. Shop should be open in mid-April.
- **Calendar Event** – The first will be the Easter Egg Hunt at Camp Hawk on Saturday, March 26. They purchased 3000 eggs (1500 were purchased last year). They plan to have prize drawings during the event – they have received donations of cash & also items to include in the drawings.
- **New skid machine** – Has been purchased which will make “life a little easier” for the rangers with needed work in the parks.
- **April 1st** – they start to patrol the parks – they have been having a lot of campers come into the parks because of the nice weather.

- **FEMA report** – slow progress being made. Person they were working with has left & new person assigned to work with.
- **Shower House at West Park** – They have plans for foundation and after review, they decided to bid the job out to contractors. Zack asked if this building would be considered a storm shelter. Kass replied that without doing extra with the roof – it would not be considered a storm shelter – but would be better than what was previously there. Kass had not investigated the extra cost that would be involved for this extra work.
- **Dam Inspection** – Carol Buller asked if anything further had been done regarding a possible breach of the dam. Kass commented nothing done thus far.
- **Building at horse trail head at East Lake** – Carol also asked about the type of building that will be built at the horse trail head. It will be a 3 sided open facility building.
- **Other advisory board meetings** – Cynda asked if either Kass or Derrick had had a chance to visit other board meetings for ideas, etc. Due to time constraints, this has not been done at this time.

Old Business:

- **Shower House – Walnut Grove** – (see Directors Report above)

New Business:

New skid steer machine was outside of the hall & invited members to go look at it when leaving the meeting.

Ron Hoffman commented some areas around concrete pads that the picnic tables are on needed to be filled in for safety. Kass also commented they had poured a ramp for easy access at the ADA camping pad.

Carolyn Schwab commented that some of walking trails at Osage Nature Trails could use more material on them – they are pretty soft. Also around the memorial, there is some concrete lying around that is not too attractive for the area. Kass advised they plan to meet around 3/29 for an action plan – prepare to do some planting.

Carol Buller asked if the bridge along the horse trail will be repaired prior to having the planned scavenger hunt – it will be done prior to this event.

Board Member Comments:

Cynda asked with the rangers give new board members a tour of the parks, she would like to be notified to attend. She also commented on continued investigation into the use of orange/red lights for storm warnings for the parks. Kass commented that during storm warnings, rangers are out with radios, driving around warning campers.

New Board Applicants –

Carolyn Schwab moved, Ron Hoffman seconded that the board recommend to the County Commissioners that Brittany Welch be approved as an advisory board member. No discussion. Motion carried.

Carol Buller moved, Carolyn Schwab seconded that the board recommend to the County Commissioners that Jack Bender III be approved as an advisory board member. Under discussion, it was noted, by his own admission, he planned to travel some & might not make it to all the meetings. It was noted that all members have to miss at times & this should not be a problem of concern. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Brandon moved, Cynda seconded that meeting adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Next meeting – April 18, 2016 – Camp Hawk

Respectfully,

Pat Jackson, Secretary.