

Harvey County Parks & Recreational Advisory Board
Minutes of
September 19, 2011 Held at East Lake

Members Present: Larry Schmitt, Pat Jackson, Zack Phillips, Jim Lasiter, Debbie Cobb, Norman Alexander, Dorothy Zook, Walt Silvernale

Members Absent: Carol Buller, Derrick Richling, Jerry Vetter

Rangers Present: Kass Miller, Lloyd Stoddard, Shannon Metz

Minutes: Minutes of the August meeting were approved as presented.

Special Use Permits: None

Park Staff Reports:

Camp Hawk: Kass: Got the two dead cottonwood trees cut down - part of one tree went into the lake which will make good habitat. Will clean up rest of debris as time permits. The 1 1/2 inch rain helped the lake level a little.

East Lake: Kass: Started trimming the horse trails - removing saplings from nature trail - still caution on blue green algae, but count is going down. Started demolishing the old ranger residence at head of horse trails. Goal is to have it all completed by end of October. Tabor college going to have a cross country run on Saturday 9/24.

West Park: Lloyd: Doing normal fall work. A group of boy scouts came out and painted the bait shop. There will be a benefit horse ride for St Jude held at West Park the weekend of Sept 23/24.

Fishing, Boating & Hunting: Fishing slow; no boating at East Lake due to algae. They are in process of preparing for hunting season., There will be turkey hunting allowed (both bow & shotgun) and water fowl. There will be about 20 acres for turkey hunting. They are checking on insurance. No quail or pheasant hunting. Horse trails will be closed when season starts. Larry asked about putting cover around the lake since the water is so low. Kass advised that this is being planned. They have a lot of downed brush around the lake that can be used.

Facilities Roads & Grounds - No Report - Kass did mention that doors at Camp Hawk need replaced, or stripped and repainted. Lloyd commented there is always something to be done to the facilities at all of the parks.

Land Park Use & Resource Management: No report - Horse trails are being used; Kass even reported seeing some riders around Camp Hawk and did not have a problem with that.

Old Business: Kass advised that shotguns will be allowed to hunt turkey. Feels the area that will be hunted is safe enough to use the shotguns. Rental fee for West Park still not decided upon..but conversation is on going.

Shannon passed around additional information on ACTHA, an organization that Carol Buller mentioned at park meeting a couple of months ago. Some discussion indicated if the area of the ranger home at East Lake could be utilized once the home is gone, we could sponsor one of their events. Perhaps one day at East Lake & on day at West Park - making it a full weekend event. The organization supplies everything including insurance -no cost to parks, etc. Something to consider at a later date.

Shannon also passed around pictures of an outdoor western theme wedding that was held recently at West Park Shelter. She feels keeping this information for others to see will help attract more people to use the facility for special occasions & give them ideas to use. She hopes to keep some sort of scrap book at the bait shop in West Park for visitors to look at.

New Business: Kass advised the duck blind will be around cat fish point on the west side of the first jetty. Kass also advised he met with the owner of Hunters Bait Shop on the north side of East Lake. He wanted to know their plans for their bait shop after they retire in case the East Lake bait shop would close. They advised him that this bait shop is their retirement job. They are also trying to set up some type of communication between the bait shop & Hunters such as intercom to assist in serving people that come to the lake. Dorothy commented she hated to see the East Lake bait shop close. Kass commented he felt if the bait shop were located closer to where campers are, it would do better.

No other business - meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully,

Pat Jackson, Secretary