

**Harvey County Parks & Recreational Advisory Board**  
**Minutes of**  
**September 17, 2012 - West Park**

**Members Present:** Larry Schmitt, Norman Alexander, Deb Cobb, Carol Buller, Derrick Richling, Pat Jackson, Zack Phillips, Dorothy Zook, Jerry Vetter, Terry Gowin

**Members Absent:** Jim Lasiter

**Rangers Present:** Kass Miller, Shannon Metz, Carol Dilts

**Minutes:** Minutes of the August meeting were approved as submitted.

**Special Use Permits:** Carl Jones & Carol Dilts Jones

Carl proposed to the park advisory board to hold a "self" bow making event at West Park.. "Harvey County, Kansas Bow Building Jamboree".

He said to his knowledge, nothing like this has been held in the State of Kansas. There are like events held in Missouri & Oklahoma and are very well attended from throughout the United States & other countries. The art of making bows is showing a resurgence of popularity and it is a craft that he would like to see continue. He passed around samples of the making of a bow in different stages, from the rough Osage wood, to the finished product of a well made bow. He also passed out an outline of what activities they would do as well as their mission statement "to further the skill and craft of archery bowbuilding with natural materials in a historical manner. He thinks for this first time, he would attract possibly 50 to 75 people. They would rent the Stone Shelter & do all their projects in that area. He would like to do this the last weekend of October & it would encompass a weekend - Friday, Saturday, with people departing on Sunday. There would be some shooting events as well and these would be supervised and in a designated area away from the hiking/horseback trails. Some of the questions comments made from the board:

- \*What safety measures would be in place?
- \* Would there be an admission fee for attendees?
- \* Is this a non profit event?
- \*What about insurance?

The main concern of the board was the insurance and that issue should be in place. Carl advised he would investigate. Zack Phillips suggested he check with the other people that have held this type of event & see how they handled their liability insurance. Jerry Vetter suggested he check with his organization to see if they would help or offer to assist with insurance. Kass advised that insurance would be required especially with the attendees using all types of hand tools to

make the bows. Jerry asked if there was an age limit. Carl replied that they have people from 3 to 93...definitely a family event. As for fees, if any are charged, they are mainly interested in collecting enough to pay for the rent of the shelter. Any monies left over will be donated to local charities. Kass asked if the Rhodes Foundation would donate toward the event; Larry said they are more interested in hunting aspect - but he would ask them. Kass reiterated that anytime an admission fee is charged for an event, it requires county commissioners approval.

After further discussion, the members felt it was a good thing for the park, but main concern would be for the liability insurance. Norman Alexander moved that the park board recommend this event if the issue of insurance could be resolved & that it be presented to the County Commissioners for final approval. Deb Cobb seconded. Shannon said she would get with Carl & Carol to further research this & then would get the presentation on the agenda of an upcoming county commission meeting. Shannon also felt this type of event would fall under the same guidelines as the Boy Scout jamboree that is held each year at West Park. Motion carried.

### **Park Staff Reports:**

**Camp Hawk: Kass:** They are doing some tree trimming. Started painting the outside of the Shelter House.

**East Lake: Kass:** Ryan has given his 2 week notice - going to work for the Harvey County Extension Office. Still under green algae warning at the lake.

**West Park: Shannon:** Been having a lot of campers - also still under green algae warning. Get ready for the winter months, etc.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Fishing, Boating & Hunting: Norman:** Fishing not too bad. Norman said he caught a 13" small mouth bass at Jetty 3 at East Lake. Dorothy also reported some campers have been catching some nice channel.

**Facilities Roads & Grounds -Shannon:** They got the final bid for boxes, wiring, etc for the 7 new pads at West Park. They went with Big A out of Newton with best bid. Kass will let Rick come over from East Lake to help finish up the pads. Carol asked if these would be used for extended stay camping. Shannon commented that the commissioners want them to review the extended stay camping. She said she is in favor of adding more as they have a waiting list & this, and she does not want to use the first come, first serve pads for extended stay campers. This brings in approximately \$4,000 in revenue to the park. Those wanting extended stay, pay an additional \$75 per month for this priviledge.

**Land Park Use & Resource Management:** Shannon reported the house at West Park is being remodeled & they are in hopes to get it done & rented before winter.

### **Old Business:**

Jerry asked about the new brochure. Carol replied we will meet after we adjourn to

finalize changes in brochure & select new photos.

Kass advised that the bridge at East Lake horse trails has not been repaired yet. Carol also advised that the lady from ACTHA that she is in contact with said the area around the old ranger house would not be enough to park 30 trailers. We need to figure out where we could get more parking if the possibility of holding an ACTHA event would happen. Kass advised it would probably be a year before that area would be completely cleaned up.

Regarding the complaint filed at the last meeting by Mike Sumrr, Deb Cobb advised he has gone to the court house to get more income information on the parks & it is rumored he is thinking of getting an attorney. In further discussion, it is the opinion of the board that he is not happy with extended stay camping because he cannot get the spot he likes. Shannon advised that the park has been full - it is hard to get any camping spots - over memorial day they had to put people in the new unfinished pads. Larry advised that we will just see how this works out. There have not been any other complaints, therefore, just wait & see how this plays out. Further discussion on extended stay -the question was raised how about rotating the extended stay spots each year. Shannon commented they don't rotate any of the reserved spots. Shannon also stated that the extended camping spots they have selected are not the best spots in the park. It was felt by the board that unless something comes up again, to let the rangers work out this issue.

The other gentlemen, Dean Heckendorn, has a problem with backing his camper & presently has it stored at West Park. He would like to put it at East Lake and be able to pull through so he would face East. Kass said there is not any place he could pull through at East Lake. Kass said he could possibly put him on one end that might help him. Jerry Vetter suggested that Kass get in touch with Dean & see if they can work out an arrangement. Perhaps someone could back his trailer in for him.

Kass advised nothing has been done regarding research into the possibility of putting warning sirens in the park.

**New Business:**

Larry asked Kass if there was any money left for hunting insurance & Kass advised he would check on that. Larry has rebuilt the duck blind, and they plan to have duck/goose hunting again if insurance can be obtained.

No further business - it was moved & seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Next meeting:                      October 15, 2012 - East Lake

Respectfully submitted:

Pat Jackson, Secretary