

Harvey County Parks Advisory Board  
Meeting – West Park

January 23, 2017

Members present: Pat Jackson, Carol Buller, Cynda Conrade, Bill Kiehl, Brandon Will, Carolyn Schwab, Brittany Welch, and Jack Bender

Members Absent: Zack Phillips, Ron Hoffman

Staff Present: Director, Kass Miller

Chairman, Brandon Will called the meeting to order at 7:00.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the November 21, 2016 meeting were approved with following corrections: \*Page 1, Trip Advisors was corrected to Getoutdoorkansas.org . On Conquer the Gauntlet event, the proceeds were \$3,000 instead of the reported \$2,000.\*

**Directors Report – Kass Miller**

- End of the year inventory has been completed.
- Have secured additional hay ground to be leased.
- Contract with current farmer of hay ground has ended.
- Working on Calendar of Events – reported the report that Conquer the Gauntlet would not attend this year has changed. They are working things out and have submitted a contract to them. A date of July 15<sup>th</sup> has been set. Cynda asked about charges. Kass commented last year they charged a flat \$3,000 fee with a \$2,000 security deposit to be returned if area used is left clean. (Deposit was returned in 2016). He is recommending this year to charge \$1.00 per competitor and \$1.00 per spectator, \$1,000 down payment 30 days prior to event, and a \$2,000 cleaning/damage deposit.

**Operations Report – Kass Miller (in the absence of Derrick Richling)**

- At Camp Hawk have started burning brush pile. Had leak at the well as it froze; has since been repaired.
- At East Lake, they have begun to remove trees from the field water ways and putting them in to burn piles for burning at later date.
- At West Park, in the area west of the dam, made a cut to allow water to flow into the lake. Eventually this will have a culvert for this purpose.
- New Bath House in Walnut Grove area, they are working on the interior walls, etc. Kass is very pleased on how this will look when they are done. He admitted it is hard since they do not have experience in some of the required interior work, but are making progress.
- Bids are out for new equipment, they plan to secure two trucks, one ½ ton and one ¾ ton. Bids are due back by February 10<sup>th</sup>. They have secured a “dump” trailer to use in the hauling of their skid steer. They are in the process of looking for attachments to use with it.

## Old Business:

- **Fees Recommendations:** (discussed in New Business Park Regulations update)
- **New Business:**
- **Trappers Rendezvous:** Due to the weather (cold/ice predicted) this year's event was not what they would have liked, but an approximate count was 1,600 to 2,000 scouts. They did not have any problems; those that attended seemed to have a good time. The rangers did have a backup plan in the event the weather became a hazard situation for campers. Bill asked if anything had been done in regards to approaching Coleman paying Harvey County Parks for use of the camping area during this event. Kass commented that the Council was supposed to address this matter; but nothing has happened. The Parks Department plans to address this next year; prepare a contract & meet with Coleman.
- **Park Regulations Update:** Kass had previously sent board members the proposed Park Regulations for 2017 and User Fees. The User Fees from 2016 continued into 2017 with no change. There was an addition of a Recreation Pass for day users of the parks. He went over each area that had been highlighted as change/rewording/addition, etc. He asked for suggestions/changes/comments from board members as each page was reviewed. (13 pages). Minor corrections were made to grammar, spelling, etc. A few of the suggestions were:
  - Definition of "campsite"
  - Spell out what constitutes a "minor".
  - A new pass was added this year, Recreation Pass" for those individuals that just drive into the park to picnic, swim, etc. The fee was \$5.00 per vehicle. Members recommended this be lowered to \$2.00. Kass agreed and will change.
  - Also, a definition of "wading" was included in this year's regulations.
- Kass will send out a revised version of the Park Regulations, User Fees & also board member list.
- Bill asked about the Veterans Discount that had been discussed at earlier meetings. It was felt this did not need to be put into the regulations as it is a once a year offering at the discretion of the rangers. Kass did say he would address this at the next county commissioners meeting.
- **Jack Bender** asked if the rangers had beaver problems in any of the parks. Kass commented they had recently torn out a dam at West Park. Jack commented that he is a member of Defenders of Wildlife and they have a program to help with beaver problems. They will come in and trap the beavers and transplant them to other areas. This is in lieu of destroying the animal. He commented that the beaver population is slowly being reduced. He left a magazine with Kass to review and check into this which was appreciated.
- **Board Member Comments: None**

No further discussion, Carol moved, Bill seconded the meeting adjourn. Motion carried. Next meeting will be **February 27, 2017 at East Park Volunteer Hall.**

Respectfully, Pat Jackson, Secretary.