

SPECIAL SESSION

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

The Parks Advisory Board of the City of Athens met in Special Session on Thursday, September 17, 2015, 3:30 p.m. in the Derek D. Daniels Conference Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 W. Corsicana St., Athens, Texas with the following members present, to-wit:

Chris Tinsley  
Jay Eckert  
Hugh Armstrong  
Justin Boswell  
Bob Morton

Philip Rodriguez, City Administrator  
Gary Crecelius, Director of Planning and Development  
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

with the following members absent: Andrea Copeland, Clyde Bowman;

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 1, 2015 AND JULY 23, 2015  
SPECIAL SESSIONS

A motion was made Member Eckert, seconded by Member Armstrong to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2015 and July 23, 2015 Special Sessions, as written. The motion carried unanimously.

HEAR UPDATE ON PARK IMPROVEMENTS PRESENTATION SUBMITTED TO  
THE CITY COUNCIL

Chairman Tinsley updated the Parks Advisory Board with current funding. He explained \$325,000.00 had been raised with \$150,000 being in the form of a challenge grant. He stated construction for improvements should start late fall.

City Manager, Philip Rodriguez stated that in mid-October should have a contractual design build proposal, and he would like to have a groundbreaking ceremony at Coleman Park inviting Council Members, Parks Advisory Board Members, private donors, as well as the public.

#### DISCUSS POSSIBLE PUBLIC FORUM

Chairman Tinsley stated he would like to see a 2, 5, and 10 year comprehensive plan for all City Parks. He stated the need for a public forum in an effort to have Citizens come out and explain the improvements they would like see for the parks. He stated it should be heavily advertised.

#### HEAR SUGGESTIONS FROM THE PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS REGARDING PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Member Armstrong suggested the following park improvements:

- Walking trail
- Jogging trail

Member Tinsley stated that he received a call from Kiwanis Club stating that AgriLife Extension Service provides a free survey for the renovations of parks.

He stated the board should keep an eye on the Old Henderson County Hospital and be ready to move with suggestions for the property.

Member Tinsley stated that Lake Athens Property Owners asked if the land adjacent to the Marina could be a park.

Member Morton stated that there is a Parks and Wildlife Grant that would update equipment at Kiwanis Park.

Member Boswell stated there is hazardous rusting playground equipment within some of the parks.

#### OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO EXPRESS ITEMS OF CONCERN RELATING TO THE CITY OF ATHENS

There was no discussion.

#### ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned.

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PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2016.

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Chris Tinsley, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary