

MINUTES
BEN GEREN PARK BOARD MEETING
February 13, 2012
12:00 Noon

The regular meeting of the Ben Geren Park Board was held at 12:00 noon, February 13, 2012, at the Ben Geren Park Community Building, 7200 Zero, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Present were:

Mr. Eddy Beshears

Absent were:

Mr. Jerry Neel

Mr. Bud Harper

Mrs. Beth Presley

Others present were:

Sebastian County Judge David Hudson

Mr. Channon Toland, Parks Administrator

Mr. Steve Nicholls, P.G.A. Golf Professional

Mr. Brian Cummins, Golf Course Superintendent

Mr. Bobby Faulkner, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Mrs. Paula Vincent, Parks Administrative Secretary

Mr. Joe Mundy, Ben Geren Softball Association President

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 Noon by Mr. Eddy Beshears, Chairman.

Minutes of the January 9, 2012, meeting were reviewed.

The first item on the agenda was Reports:

The Monthly Financial Reports were reviewed. A total of \$24,417.47 for the Golf Course and \$375 for the Front Side was transferred to County Treasurer for January 2012. Channon pointed out that golf course revenue is up compared to last year. It is the best January since 2006. Rounds are up almost 39% over last year.

Channon gave an update on park projects.

- Softball: Field improvements have been made
- Capital: Requests will be reviewed on Tuesday, February 21, by the Quorum Court
 - Softball - Fencing
 - Tennis - Fencing and redoing the courts
 - Disc Golf - Expand the course to 27 holes
- Golf Course: The pamphlet is on hold until we can get some good pictures
- Website: The IT Department is updating
- Midland Park: Channon is talking to the Lady River Riders about making a day equestrian park. Grant money will be used to expand parking, add play equipment, and make ADA accessible.

- City/County: Meeting scheduled Thursday, February 16, to discuss the aquatics facility and softball fields

The next item on the agenda was briefing on golf course marketing by Steve Nicholls.

- The February newsletter was emailed with a special on February 29, play 18 holes including cart for \$25
- An advertising opportunity was emailed to businesses to purchase advertising space on granite monuments on the tees. Two responses have been received from this email.
- A golf outing email was sent out offering to host tournaments for companies, churches, etc.
- Steve met with the Ladies' Golf Association to confirm their dates for this year
- The PGA of America is partnering with Boys and Girls Clubs. Steve was contacted and has agreed to be the local representative this year.
- A Valentine's Day special was sent out, 18 holes and cart for \$27 on February 14

The next item on the agenda was briefing on golf course operations by Brian Cummins:

- They have been putting rocks next to cart paths where grass is being damaged by carts driving off the path

The next item on the agenda was briefing on park operations by Bobby Faulkner:

- Softball: Have built up infields and over seeded outfields. Northside will start playing March 1.
- Miniature Golf: Will be opening for spring break week March 19. Staff will be doing maintenance and landscaping.

Judge Hudson and Channon went to Little Rock on Friday, February 10, to do the presentation for the Wildlife Observation Grant.

Ben Geren is the home fields for the Northside High School girls' softball team. They have been offered the opportunity to put up a mural on the outside restroom wall near Field 4.

There was no other business to be brought before the board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Vincent
Administrative Secretary