



Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Special Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, April 16, 2018
Meeting Called to Order: 12:11p.m.
Meeting Adjourned: 1:10 p.m.
Meeting Location: Downtown Activity Center

Attendees:

Committee Members

Chris Sooter
Cortney Carlson
Courtney Schaefer
Craig Gilbert
Michelle Malashock
Shara McMurtrey
Whitney Sutherland

Staff Members

Crant Osborne
David Wright
Josh Stacey
Lee Farmer
Tracy Acosta

Other

Aubrey Patterson, City Council Member
Octavio Sanchez, City Council Member
Doug Whitaker, Water Technology, Inc.

Old Business

New Business

Melvin Ford Master Plan Meeting

David introduced Doug Whitaker with Water Technology, Inc. (WTI). Doug shared that WTI designs around 175-200 waterparks each year. They currently are working on eight in China as well. Doug previously met with a team of Bentonville Parks and Recreation staff and has been able to gather a lot of information from them as well. He shared with the board, it would cost \$7MM - \$8.5MM to replace our existing Melvin Ford Aquatic Center. WTI will gather information from all staff, community members and this board to assist in the planning and re-design of this project. Doug asked for input from the board members. Below are needs, concerns and wants from the board members.

- Overcrowded at the BCC
- Extended season wanted
- Lack of play value
- Aging facility for competitive swimmer
- Temperature controlled water
- Extended season with bubble cover
- Not just a summer season
- More fun - lazy river
- Chaotic at MFAC
- Zero depth entry
- Shade wanted for young swimmers
- Do not want to recreate local area waterparks
- Space available for all ages
- Steady growth in swimming as a sport in this area
- Play factor with year around season
- Do not want an amusement park
- Lazy river with mountain type cliffs
- Covered areas
- Children's activities
- Preserve current facility
- More amenities – slides, shade and chairs
- Open swim for triathlete training
- Friendly competition for participants (waterslides/timing systems, Wibit type structures)

Other Business