Bryant Parks Committee

Bishop Park Administration Building - Conference Room

Date: April 08, 2025 - **Time:** 6:00 PM

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes

1. March 11 Parks Committee Meeting

- Minutes-ParksCommittee-March2025 (1).pdf

Associations / Club Reports

Director's Report

2. Parks Monthly Summary

- Parks Directors Report - April25.pdf

3. Bryant Parks Programming Annual Report - Presented by Ebonee Scott and Hunter Bolin

4. Bryant Parks Advertising Plan

Public Comments

Old Business

New Business

Parks and Recreation

5. ArDOT TAP Grant - Presented by Rebecca Kidder, Grants Coordinator

6. Request to add Pledge of Allegiance to the beginning of future Committee meetings - Presented by Drew Martin, Parks Committee Ward 4

Committee Comments

Adjournments

Bryant Parks Committee Meeting
March 11, 2025 - 6:00 PM
Bishop Park Administration Building
6401 Boone Rd. Bryant, Arkansas

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order - Amanda Jolly at 6:00 PM

Committee Members Present - Amanda Jolly, Renee Curtis, Jennifer Benning, Lynn Farmer, Drew Martin and Tony Williams.

Others Present - Parks Director Keith Cox, Parks Assistant Director Matt Martin, IT Support Technician Philip Plouch, City Councilman Jon Martin, City Councilman Jack Mosely and Andre White with Bryant Youth Association.

Approval of Minutes

1. **February 11 Parks Committee Meeting**

D. Martin asks that it be clearly defined between Drew Martin and Matt Martin in future Minutes. Cox said that he would double check that going forward.

Motion to approve by D. Martin, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried.

Associations/Club Reports

2. **Bryant Youth Association** - Presented by Andre White, Program Director

White gives an annual report on the BYA. In 2024, the BYA had 337 members for the Spring, 436 members in Summer and 318 members in the Fall. He also reported that over 12,000 meals and over 54,000 snacks were served throughout the year. White then described the numerous programs the Association is doing with the kids that attend and thanked sponsors and donors. He also thanked the Parks Department and Kristin Robinson for the swim lessons that are provided to the BYA members throughout the Summer. White also credits the BYA staff for the commitment they have to the mission and vision of the organization.

Director's Report

3. **Parks Department Monthly Summary**

Cox presents the summary of actions and activities since the last Committee meeting, highlighting the conclusion of the Youth Basketball League. He also gave an update on the status of the project to replace the natatorium dehumidification system.

4. **Tour of Parks**

At the request of committee member Drew Martin, Cox tells the Committee that he will be scheduling a tour of the Bryant Parks system and will be in communication with all members finding the best time to schedule that tour.

Public Comments

There were no Public Comments

Old Business

5. **CPRG Grant**

Cox informs the Committee that since the current parking lot lights at Bishop Park are not owned by the Parks Department, we were unable to apply for the CPRG grant to upgrade those lights to LED. However, the Department has been working with First Electric to upgrade the lights even without the grant. Since we were unable to apply for the lights, we did apply for funding to purchase land adjacent to Mills Park. If the grant is received and land purchased, it will be placed into a conservation area with the exception of an easement for a water line and future trail.

New Business

There was no New Business

Committee Comments

D. Martin asks that we begin starting meetings with a pledge of allegiance and prayer. Cox says that he will discuss with legal and bring it to the committee as an agenda item for following meetings.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by D. Martin, seconded by Farmer. Motion carried.

Bryant Parks and Recreation
Director's Report
April 2025

- The Youth Basketball League completed their season on March 8th.
- Now offering Volleyball Lessons on Tuesdays and Thursday evenings.
- The Evening Pickleball League started this week.
- Center Gymnasium hosted a Hoop Play Basketball Tournament on March 29-30.
- Center Meeting Rooms provided space for Arkansas Midland Railroad, First Electric Cooperative, National Retirement Educators, Future Builders, among others for professional meetings.
- Partnered with Life Line Screening for stroke prevention testing at The Center.
- Center Gymnasium and Aquatics Facility is hosting the Arkansas Senior Olympics on April 12.
- On May 8, we will be hosting the Greater Bryant Chamber of Commerce's Taste of Bryant in the Center Gymnasium.
- Bishop Aquatics Center hosted a BASS swim meet on March 15th. We hosted 86 swimmers from Bryant, Searcy, Harrison, El Dorado and Arkadelphia. The BASS team finished first place.
- Held a lifeguard in-service training on March 15th, focusing on: using Spinal Motion Restriction to extricate an injured person from the water that has suffered a spinal injury, one-person and two-person infant CPR, handling a seizure in the water and multiple victim rescues.
- Held Spring Break special swim lessons.
- Held a lifeguard/lifeguard review course during Spring Break.
- A new Lochinvar water heater was installed for the Bishop therapy pool. Replaced a mini-split AC unit in the aquatics storage room.
- Lifeguard classes will be offered on April 7 - 12 and May 12 - 18.
- A Water Safety Instructor class will be offered April 28 - May 4.
- Registration for Summer swim lessons at Mills Pool will begin on May 1st.
- Registration is open for Mills Pool Season passes as well as reservations for pool parties at Mills Pool.
- Repaired broken lights in Center and Aquatics Center parking lot. Working to get all parking lot lights upgraded to LED.
- Fertilized Baseball and Softball fields at Bishop Park and Ashley Park
- Fertilized Lacrosse Field at Alcoa Park
- Fertilized Soccer fields at Midland Park
- Seeded the Bryant Youth Association Playground with perennial rye grass.
- De-winterized and opened old bathrooms at Mills Park.
- Replaced vandalized door at Ashley Park bathrooms.