

Parks & Recreation Citizens Advisory Committee Formed

By Michael Palecki

The November 18 meeting of the Phelan Pinon Hills Community Services District (CSD) included information on the recently formed Citizens Advisory Committee, which will research options for the development of new parks. The first meeting was held on November 16, with seventeen community members in attendance. Subsequent meetings are scheduled every Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Phelan Community Center.

During his report, CSD Director Charlie Johnson disclosed that he was impressed with the overview of goals presented by Parks Supervisor Steve Lowrance. At the inaugural meeting, Ken Bender was elected Chairperson, with Rowena McDermott elect Vice Chair and Jeanne Willard chosen for Secretary.

Committee volunteers will serve up to 10 hours per week developing a priority list of suggested parks and identifying costs and ongoing maintenance for each site. Once those goals have been accomplished, the committee will prepare a grant application for state funding.

Also present at the meeting were three members of Transition Habitat Conservancy (THC). President Jill Bays pledged participation from her group later on, in the grant writing process. Just last week, THC received acknowledgement for a successful grant application and funding in the amount of \$27,500.

Later on at the CSD meeting, General Manager Don Bartz reported on continuing repairs to the water system infrastructure. In the short history of the CSD, almost every well has experienced pump failures. In most cases, screens designed to protect pump motors from sand abrasion – became clogged and motors burned up.

With each occurrence, screens were cleaned, pump motors were replaced and production of the well was

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