



## **City of Abilene**

### **Parks and Recreation Board Agenda**

**Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board of City of Abilene to be held on May 19, 2026 at 8:30 AM at City Hall, 555 Walnut Street, Council Chambers, Abilene, Texas, for the purpose of considering the following agenda items.**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **INVOCATION**

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public Comments on Any Item on the Agenda

#### **MINUTES**

1. Minutes (Discussion and Action)

#### **AGENDA ITEMS**

2. Renaming Sears Recreation Center (Discussion, Public Hearing and Possible Action)
3. Aquatics Report (Discussion)
  - Adventure Cove
  - Splash Pads
  - Champions Day
4. Parks Report (Discussion)
  - April Work Orders
  - Nelson Splash Pad Sign
  - Fun Fact
5. Recreation Report (Discussion)
  - Recreation Center & Branch Library Hours
  - Recreation Center Membership
  - Yoga
  - Zine Making
  - Open Gym

6. Senior Report (Discussion)
  - Flag Day Celebration
  - Juneteenth
  
7. Zoo Report (Discussion)
  - Animal News
  - Recent Events
  - Upcoming Events

**ADJOURNMENT**

***Notice***

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Abilene will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending meetings. To better serve you, requests should be received forty-eight (48) hours prior to scheduled meetings. Please contact the City Secretary's Office at 325-676-6208. Telecommunication device for the deaf is 325-676-6360.*

**CERTIFICATION**

*I hereby certify the above meeting notice was posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall of the City of Abilene, Texas, on the 13th day of May, 2026, at 1:40 p.m.*

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*Kaitlin Richardson, Deputy City  
Secretary, TRMC, CMC*

**City of Abilene, TX  
Parks and Recreation**

**Administrative Policies and Procedures**

**Subject:** Parks and Parks Facility Naming Policy      **Effective Date: December 21, 2021**

**Approved by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parks and Recreation Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parks and Recreation Director

**Applies to:** Individuals, groups or organizations requesting to name a park, park area, or park facility.

**Policy:** The naming of a City of Abilene park, park area, or park facility is a serious matter. All names considered by the Parks and Recreation Board should be significant, appropriate, considerate and acceptable to the citizens of Abilene.

**Roles and Responsibilities:** Parks and Recreation Director: Reviews submitted applications for completeness and accuracy and schedules application review by the Parks and Recreation Board. Upon Parks and Recreation Board approval, implements new park or park area name with signage and addition to City Website.

- Procedures:**
1. The individual, group or organization requesting to name a park, park area, or park facility must complete and submit the Park, Park Area, and Facility Naming application. The application can be obtained and submitted at the Parks and Recreation office located at 633 Walnut Street.
  2. The applicant will be notified of a scheduled meeting date of the Parks and Recreation Board, which the applicant must attend to make a presentation that justifies the proposed park, park area, or park facility name.
  3. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board may appoint a Park Naming Subcommittee to further evaluate the application and to forward a recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Board.
  4. The City of Abilene will publish information regarding the proposed naming. The public will be notified of any Parks and Recreation Board meetings related to the naming.

5. The recommendation for any name change of existing park or park facility or naming of new park or park facility will require two readings with approvals from the Parks and Recreation Board on both readings for the name to be adopted.

6. The recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Board shall be the final determination and action on this recommendation.

**Checks and Balances:**

The Director of Parks and Recreation reviews the Park and Facility Naming Application and schedules the review by the Parks and Recreation Board.

**Forms and Required Documents:**

Park, Park Area, or Park Facility Naming Application

**City of Abilene, TX  
Parks and Recreation  
Park and Facility Naming Application**

**Park and Facility Naming Guidelines**

The naming of a City of Abilene Park, Park Area, or Park Facility is a serious matter. All names considered by the Parks and Recreation Board should be significant, appropriate, considerate and acceptable to the citizens of Abilene. This policy applies to all new and existing Parks and/or Parks Facilities. Naming or renaming of any park or park facility will be at the discretion of any naming requirements, if any, established in the original transfer of property ownership to the City of Abilene. Staff will attempt to communicate proposed changes to any known living direct descendants associated with the existing name of the park or park facility to the best of their ability. The attempt to notify any living direct descendants, even if the attempt is unsuccessful, shall serve as due diligence and not result in the termination of the naming request.

**Naming Criteria**

1. Outstanding Individuals: In the event that the name of a deceased person is proposed, that person shall have been prominent in Abilene or elsewhere and shall have demonstrated a continued commitment and made a substantial contribution to the Parks and Recreation Department. Persons not associated with parks may be considered but shall meet all other criteria. Any living person proposed shall have made a worthy and extraordinary endowment to the Parks and Recreation Department, or be extremely prominent.
2. Common Usage Identifying the Neighborhood: Acknowledges the geographic location of the park or facility or common name that gives a particular identity to the area neighborhood.
3. Historical Event or Place: Preserves and honors the history of Abilene, its founders, historical figures, cultural, historical events or local landmarks.
4. Natural or Geographical Feature in the Area: Acknowledges a prominent or unique natural or geological, archeological, botanical or zoological feature in the surrounding area.
5. Benefit/Organization Acknowledgement: Acknowledges the significant benefit of a monetary donation, significant donation of resources or services rendered.

**Procedures**

1. The individual, group or organization requesting to name a park, park area, or park facility must complete and submit the Park, Park Area, or Park Facility

Naming application. The application can be obtained and submitted at the Parks and Recreation office located at 633 Walnut Street.

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4. The City of Abilene will publish information regarding the proposed naming. The public will be notified of any Parks and Recreation Board meetings related to the naming.
5. The final recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Board shall be the final determination and action on this recommendation.

### **Restrictions**

1. The name shall not duplicate the name of any other park or park facility in Abilene.
2. The name shall not endorse or advocate any religion or specific religious belief, nor shall the name have an obscene connotation or malevolently portray, demean, or intimidate any racial or ethnic group.
3. The name of a park or park facility shall not be proposed for change without completion of the application requirements..
4. The name of a park or park facility shall not be approved to be changed until a minimum of (50) fifty years after the last name change of that park or park facility was established or renamed. Exceptions to this may be made for names of facilities/ assets for advertisement rights where a company pays for the name of the company as a sponsorship. Sponsorship rights would fall under the same criteria as any other naming but the time would be contracted as opposed to the fifty years minimum.

**City of Abilene, TX  
Parks and Recreation  
Park, Park Area, or Facility Naming Application**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Park, Park Area, or Facility to be Named:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address or Location of Park or Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Category:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Outstanding Individual(s)**  
Acknowledges the sustained contribution that has been made by such individual(s) to the City of Abilene and/or the Parks and Recreation system.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Neighborhood Identity**  
Acknowledges the geographic location or common name that gives a particular identity to a neighborhood.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Historical Event, Person, Place**  
Preserves and honors the history of Abilene, its founders, other historical figures or local landmarks.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Natural or Geographical Feature to the Area**  
Acknowledges a prominent or unique natural or geological feature in the surrounding area.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Benefit/Organization Acknowledgement**  
Acknowledges the significant benefit of a major donation or gift.

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ For Office Use Only



**City of Abilene  
Parks and Recreation  
Park and Facility Naming Application**

Suggested Name: \_\_\_\_\_

List eligible members of the public who support the nomination. Include name, address, telephone number and signature of fifty (50) individuals, ages 18 years or older who live within the Abilene city limits.

Name	Address	Phone Number and/or Email Address	Signature
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# Renaming of Sears Recreation Center





# General Information

- On August 17th, 2020 a request was submitted to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to change the name of Arthur Sears Park to Cesar Chavez Park.
- After community input and further discussion, the Parks and Recreation Board passed a motion on September 21st, 2021 to retain the name of Arthur Sears Park for the park proper, yet change the name of the recreation center located at Arthur Sears Park to Cesar Chavez Recreation Center.
- On March 27, 2026 the City Council requested staff remove the name of Cesar Chavez from the facility, at which time a temporary name of Sears Recreation Center was given to the facility. The name removal followed national reports and investigations into allegations of sexual misconduct against Cesar Chavez, prompting local leaders to request the name be removed prior to the center's opening.





# Parks and Parks Facility Naming Policy

- Policy: The naming of a City of Abilene park, park area, or park facility is a serious matter. All names considered by the Parks and Recreation Board should be significant, appropriate, considerate and acceptable to the citizens of Abilene.





# Procedures for Renaming Park or Park Facility

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# Recent Name Recommendations

Abilene Sunset Recreation Center  
Arthur Sears Recreation Center  
Billy Enriquez Recreation Center  
Bluebonnet North Recreation Center  
Ovelia Campos Recreation Center  
North Abilene Recreation Center  
Prairie Dog Recreation Center  
Prickly Pear Recreation Center





# Aquatics Report





# Adventure Cove



- May 23rd pool is OPEN for the 2026 season.
- Currently accepting reservations for after-hour rentals and swim lessons. (filling up fast)



# Splash Pads

The map shows the following splash pad locations and their status:

- Valentine Splash Pad:** Now Open!
- Sears Splash Pad:** Now Open!
- Adventure Splash Pad:** Opening May 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Stevenson Splash Pad:** Now Open!
- Scarborough Splash Pad:** Now Open!
- Redbud Splash Pad:** Now Open!
- Nelson Splash Pad:** Temporarily Closed

Other locations shown on the map include Ambler, Judge E, ES 11<sup>th</sup>, S 1<sup>st</sup>, S 7<sup>th</sup>, Treadaway, and S 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Please come enjoy one of our open locations.**

[abilenetx.gov/aquatics](http://abilenetx.gov/aquatics)

**PARKS & RECREATION**  
CITY OF ABILENE TEXAS

- Nelson Splash is currently not open.
- All other splash pads are open.



# Champions Day

**Champions Day**  
**June 20<sup>th</sup> & July 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**  
**Free Admission**  
for guests with disabilities  
**50% Off**  
for up to 4 family members

[abilenetx.gov/aquatics](http://abilenetx.gov/aquatics)

- June 20<sup>th</sup> & July 18<sup>th</sup>
- 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- Free Admission: guests with disability
- 50% Off: up to 4 family members



# Parks Report





# April Work Orders



- 456 work orders completed with a total of 2,921 Labor Hours.
- \$48,444 parts and labor cost.



# Installation of Nelson Splash Pad Sign

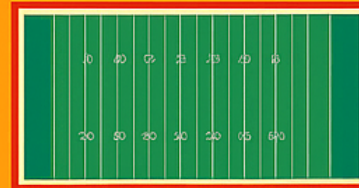
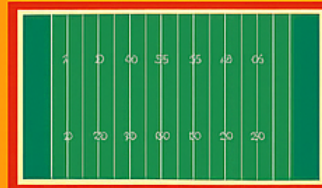
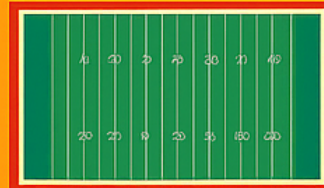




# Fun Fact

ROSE PARK'S TURF  
COVERS

**1,176,120 SQ**  
EQUAL TO 21 NFL FIELDS **FT**



**OUR CREWS MOW ROSE PARK  
16 TIMES EACH SEASON**

ESSENTIALLY MAINTAINING A FULL NFL SEASON'S  
WORTH OF FIELDS RIGHT HERE AT ROSE PARK.



# Recreation Report





# Recreation Centers and Branch Library Hours & Locations

## Sears & G.V. Daniels Recreation Centers & Branch Libraries

### Recreation Center Hours

 **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**  
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

 **Wednesday, Friday, Saturday**  
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

 **Sunday**  
Closed

### Library Hours

 **Monday - Friday**  
10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

 **Saturday**  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

 **Sunday**  
Closed

 [abilenetx.gov/RecCenters](http://abilenetx.gov/RecCenters)



- Recreation center and branch library locations:
  - G.V. Daniels – 532 Washington St. (Carver Park)
  - Sears – 2250 Ambler Ave. (Arthur Sears Park)





# Recreation Center Membership

**Sears & G.V. Daniels  
Recreation Centers  
& Branch Libraries**

**Admission**

Abilene Resident Membership ..... Free  
Non-Resident Day Pass ..... \$5  
Non-Resident Yearly Membership ..... \$30


**How to Register**

- 📍 Online at [abilenetx.gov/RecSignUp](http://abilenetx.gov/RecSignUp)
- 👤 In person at the front desk

**Checking In**

- 📄 Provide Name/ID or scan barcode

[abilenetx.gov/RecCenters](http://abilenetx.gov/RecCenters)



- Recreation center membership is a separate membership from the Library membership.
  - Recreation center membership is free for residents.
  - Recreation center membership for non-residents is \$30 annually for up to 6 immediate members of the household.
  - There is a \$5 non-resident daily pass.
  - Signup is one-time and allows access to both centers.
  - Register at one of our centers.
- or
- Register Online at [www.abilenetx.gov/recsignup](http://www.abilenetx.gov/recsignup)



# Yoga

# YOGA

Day	Time	Place	Type
Tues	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	G.V. Daniels	Hatha
Thurs	9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Sears	Chair
Thurs	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Sears	Hatha

**\$17 Drop-In  
Rate Per Class**

**\$60 Monthly  
4-Class Session**  
Monthly pass is only  
valid for one location.



[abilenetx.gov/recsignup](http://abilenetx.gov/recsignup)



- \$17 Drop-In Rate Per Class
- \$60 Monthly 4-Class Session
  - Monthly pass only valid for one location.
- Sears Recreation Center
  - Chair Yoga, Thursdays, 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM
  - Hatha Yoga, Thursdays, 10:30 AM - 11:35 AM
- G.V. Daniels Recreation Center
  - Hatha Yoga, Tuesdays, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM



# Zine Making

**Zine Making**

Twice a month  
at both Sears  
& G.V. Daniels  
Recreation  
Centers

Registration  
Opens April 22<sup>nd</sup>  
at 8:00 AM

**\$30**

Register or learn  
more online.

(325) 676-6217 • [abilenetx.gov/rec](http://abilenetx.gov/rec)

**PARKS & RECREATION**  
CITY OF ABILENE TEXAS

- Registration Opened  
April 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 8:00 AM
- Cost: \$30
- Locations: Sears & G.V. Daniels  
Recreation Centers



# Open Gym

## OPEN PLAY BASKETBALL

DAY(S)	TIME	LOCATION
Monday	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Sears
Thursday	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	G.V. Daniels
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Sears
2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	G.V. Daniels

[abilenetx.gov/recreation](http://abilenetx.gov/recreation)



## OPEN PLAY VOLLEYBALL

DAY(S)	TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	G.V. Daniels
Thursday	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Sears

[abilenetx.gov/recreation](http://abilenetx.gov/recreation)



## OPEN PLAY PICKLEBALL

DAY(S)	TIME	LOCATION
Monday & Wednesday	9:00AM - 11:00AM	Sears
Monday	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	G.V. Daniels
Tuesday & Thursday	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	G.V. Daniels
Tuesday	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Sears

[abilenetx.gov/recreation](http://abilenetx.gov/recreation)





# Seniors Report





# Flag Day Celebration

**FLAG DAY CELEBRATION**  
Rose Park Senior Center • Patio  
**★ June 12<sup>th</sup> • 1:30 PM ★**  
Join us for Flag Day Celebration! Enjoy outdoor games, light refreshments, & a fun afternoon as we come together in honor of the day.

**Ages 55+**

(325) 734-5300 • [abilenetx.gov/seniors](http://abilenetx.gov/seniors)

**PARKS & RECREATION**  
CITY OF ABILENE TEXAS

- Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>
- Time: 1:30 PM
- Location: Senior Center Patio



# Juneteenth

Ages 55+

## Juneteenth

Rose Park Senior Center

### June 19<sup>th</sup>

Join us for Juneteenth Celebration!  
Sponsored by West to East Community.

West To East COMMUNITY

PARKS & RECREATION  
CITY OF ABILENE TEXAS

(325) 734-5300 • [abilenetx.gov/seniors](http://abilenetx.gov/seniors)

- June 19<sup>th</sup>
- Rose Senior Center Open 9:00AM – 4:00PM
- Free Lunch Served 11:00AM – 1:00PM
- Sponsored by West to East Community

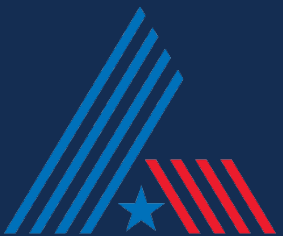


Abilene ZOO



CITY OF  
**ABILENE**  
TEXAS

# Animal News – It's a Boy!



# Recent Events



**SATURDAY, MAY 16**



# Upcoming Events

# MEMBERS AFTER-HOURS

**MAY 27 FROM 6:00 TO 9:00 PM**

**KEEPER CHATS  
ANIMAL APPEARANCES  
BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOURS**

