



Parks and Recreation Board of Directors
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 16, 2023, 10:00 AM
2801 Ranch Road 1869, Liberty Hill

1) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mary Lyn Jones called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 10 AM.

Members Present:

Mary Lyn Jones, Chair
Terrie Chambers
Nicole Bauer
Lisa Messana
Jr. (Mosby) Hamilton

City Staff:

Katie Amsler, Director of Communications and Community Engagement.
Jamie Higuera, Parks, and Recreation Coordinator
Elaine Simpson, City Secretary
Liz Branigan, Mayor

Mosby Hamilton provided the invocation and Chair Jones led the pledges to the flags.

2 PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Liberty Hill Parks & Recreation Board of Directors accepts public comments regarding the Agenda of regular meetings and Public Hearings of the Parks & Recreation Board. Individuals wishing to speak must complete a Public Comment Form and present the completed form to the City Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.

You may also submit comments to esimpson@libertyhilltx.gov before 3:00 PM the day of the meeting to be read by the City Secretary.

There were no citizen comments.

3) REGULAR AGENDA

a) Discuss, consider, and possibly take action regarding meeting minutes from Parks and

Recreation Board Meeting held January 19, 2023. (N. Bauer)

After a brief moment to review the meeting minutes, a motion was made.

Motion: Motion by Terrie Chambers, seconded by Lisa Messana, to approve and to adopt, as presented, the meeting minutes from the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting held January 19, 2023. Motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5-0. Ayes: Jones, Chambers, Bauer, Messana and Hamilton. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. With no absences.

b) Update on Swim Center progress. (J. Higuera)

The pool is progressing, there was a good walk-through on Monday with the construction and project management guys. We have a 'punch list' of what needs to be done. The last things to get settled are the emergency phone line, installation of gate locks and some internet issues. We believe we can train the new personnel while these last minute things are being done. Training will be at our pool if weather permits.

There are still some questions regarding the large blocks to be used between pool and roadway. City staff is still investigating cost concerns with these blocks.

There was no action taken on this report.

c) Report from Foundation Park Board meeting. (K. Amsler)

Director Amsler reported on her recent meeting with the Foundation Park Board. Since the city is currently working on the city's Masterplan, including park planning, it was important to know if there was any interest on the part of the Foundation to turn over management of Foundation Park to the City in the future.

No decisions were made.

Foundation members expressed desire to remain involved with Foundation Park and with the sculpture park. In 2026, it will be the 50th anniversary of the Sculpture festival, and they desire to do a big celebration of this milestone.

Some Foundation members seemed concerned that if the Foundation Park was turned over to the City, that the City would repurpose the property for something other than park land.

Ideas were discussed that possibly the Foundation would keep ownership of sculptures, or that there would be Foundation Park Board members appointed to the city's Park Board as ex-officio members.

K. Amsler did note that she informed the Foundation Park Board that the City would need an answer by September of 2023: as to whether or not they would like to turn the management of Foundation Park over to the City of Liberty Hill.

There was no action taken on this report.

d) Report on trip to capital with TRAPS organization. (K. Amsler)

Texas Recreation and Parks Society organized the 'Walk the Halls' event at the Capitol. Chair Jones, Mayor Branigan and Director Amsler attended the event on January 26th. They met with staff members for Congressman Terry Wilson and for Senator Charles Schwertner. There seems to be support in Austin for more park grants to be made available for Texas cities. Our group benefited by being the only group with their Mayor in attendance.

There was no action taken on this report.

e) City Council update. (K. Amsler)

City Council approved Kimly Horn to do the new Parks Masterplan.

There are talks of two parkland dedications to be made in the upcoming future. Both of these dedication areas are approximately fifty acres. One is located near CR 1869 near a new development. The other is a heavily wooded 55 acres near Liberty Hill High School. It is important that Kimly Horn be aware of these new potential parks, in order to integrate them into the proposed masterplan. City staff, Chair Jones, and Secretary Nicole Bauer will meet with the Kimly Horne representatives on Thursday at the Park at 9:30 AM.

There was no action taken on this report.

f) Update on City Park Master Plan. (J. Higuera)

Ms. Higuera explained that the Director of Planning and Development has been aiding the Parks Department by providing Kimly Horn as much information and data as can be located in the records. The Mini Master Plan for City Park will have its kick-off meeting this upcoming Thursday (2.23.23).

There was no action taken on this report.

g) Parks & Recreation Supervisor Comments. (J. Higuera)

The stone blocks for placing between the pool and the roadway are more expensive than originally believed. Park staff will bring options to the Park Board at the next meeting for this expense/project.

At Central Park, concrete is coming in and then the fencing will be done.

The Parks Department has a third maintenance technician hired (name is Jeff) and he will start on Wednesday.

Lifeguards and Pool Managers are still being recruited and hired.

The issue with the trees at Veterans Park is more complex than originally believed. There may not be a way to sculpt the dead trees in the park itself. They may need to be removed, taken to the sculptor's workshop and then returned to the Park. This will reduce the danger involved in creating a platform/scaffolding and trying to sculpt on-site. The scale of the sculptures may need to be reduced, due to the difficulty in moving large dead trees.

Bids are being solicited for the landscaping work at Veterans Park.

There was no action taken on this report.

4) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Issues, topics for future consideration may be identified and scheduled for a future meeting. No deliberations can be held on items not listed on tonight's agenda.

- The idea of adding some sort of Pool Screening from the Road was brought up by Secretary Nicole as well as the possibility of using landscape materials to create privacy.
- Could tree mitigation funds be used for screening of this type?
- Concerns with trees planted near pool is that the leaves that blow into the pool.
- Director, Terrie suggested windscreens as a possibility, similar to around tennis courts to create privacy.

5) ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Lisa Messana and seconded by Mosby Hamilton, to adjourn the meeting at 10:34

AM. Motion passed on vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Parks and Recreation Committee of the City of Liberty Hill, Texas on the 23rd of March, 2023 on vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Mary Lyn Jones

Mary Lyn Jones, Chair

Flaine Simpson

Board or City Secretary

