



Meeting Minutes

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

5:30 PM

City Hall, Basement Training Room

A. Call To Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established with Thomas Cronnon absent.

B. Public Comment

Cheryl Segrest at 14965 Canadian Mist Drive, addressed the Committee and advocated for a skate park on the Island as it does not currently have one that is near by.

Joe Benavides at 410 Atlantic Street addressed the Committee representing/supporting the Instituto Cultura de Hispanica (ICH). Mr. Benavides spoke to grants and emphasized if ICH could be considered for future grants.

C. Approval of Absences: Twila Stevens & Kellie Summers

A motion was made by Mike Lehnert to approve the absences listed above and it was seconded by Adam Rios. The motion passed.

D. Approval of Minutes

1. [24-0350](#) Regular Meeting Minutes of April 10, 2024

A motion was made by Howard Schauer to approve the minutes listed above and it was seconded by Mike Lehnert. The motion passed.

E. New Business for Discussion

2. [24-0470](#) Briefing Regarding Type-A Sales Tax Reauthorization, Heather Hurlbert, Assistant City Manager

Heather Hurlbert, Assistant City Manager, presented item "2" for the record as shown above. She began the presentation by giving some background information regarding what Type A sales taxes are authorized for, eligible projects and engagement that has taken place since the 2023 Election. She then explained the baseline reauthorization uses that are proposed by City Council for the Downtown Seawall and American Bank Center Arena.

It is proposed to expand Type A Sales Tax use to the whole American Bank Center Arena which includes the Convention Center and the Selena Auditorium. Also proposed is to add certain City owned buildings/assets in the Sports, Entertainment, and Arts (SEA) District including Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, Art Museum of South Texas, Texas State Museum of Asian Cultures & Education Center, Harbor Playhouse and the Water Garden.

For the Sea Wall, it is proposed to add City-wide flood, drainage, stormwater, and coastal resiliency projects that would support new or expanded business enterprises. It is proposed to remove the use for public facilities including the Marina, Art Museum, Art Center, and other public facilities along the Seawall.

Ms. Hurlbert went over the next steps leading up to election in November 2024 which includes community engagement meetings and a community survey. After the presentation concluded, the floor was opened for comments/questions from the Committee. Discussion took place regarding the American Bank Center Arena and Ms. Hurlbert clarified that the revenue that is produced by the Type A sales tax is a dedicated funding source; the full amount of funding will be used for the completion of projects.

She stated that Staff have identified up to \$80 million in repairs, modifications or improvements for the Arena that are affecting current operations. As a side note, she stated it was determined that up to \$300 million would be needed for a full expansion of the Arena such as an additional ballroom, expanding the current exhibit hall and a parking structure to accommodate the expansion. This type of project would not utilize the Type A tax but could be explored further down the road if there was much feedback supporting this option. She stated that the Type A tax will not be used to fund a hotel and the City can use other funding sources if it was decided to move forward with that type of project. She also clarified the difference between Capital Improvement projects.

F. Director's Report

3. [24-0351](#) Parks & Recreation Updates for May 2024

Robert Dodd, Director of Parks & Recreation, gave the following updates:

- Completion of West Guth Park Playground
- Additional benches at Aquarius Park
- New Lighting at Westchester Park
- Sturdier Adopt-A-Park/311 Signage
- Pavers for Sherrill Park
- Good News Items/Upcoming Events

G. Committee Liaison & Subcommittee Reports

ISAC (Twila Stevens):

- Public Comment regarding Riley Dog Park (Affluent water/Future Agenda item)

- Spring Break Statistics
- Lifeguards

WBAC/BMAC (Howard Schauer):

- Beach Permits
- Packery Channel Ribbon Cutting
- Beach Flooding
- Corp of Engineers (Permit)
- Erosion Response Plan
- GLO Briefing - Beach Dune Protection
- Smoking Ban in City Parks

H. Future Agenda Items

- Skate Park
- Wranosky Park

I. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.