



## Meeting Minutes

### Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

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Wednesday, March 13, 2024

5:30 PM

City Hall, Basement Training Room

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#### A. Call To Order/Roll Call

Chair Lindsey called the meeting to order and a quorum was established with Kellie Summers and Twila Stevens absent.

#### B. Public Comment

BiBi Dalrymple, 2925 Denver Avenue, with the Audubon Outdoor Club of Corpus Christi, addressed the Committee and spoke to the history of Blucher Park. She gave information regarding Bird Walk events which are scheduled every weekend the month of April, meeting on Carrizo Street at 8:00 a.m. She also informed the Committee of the volunteer efforts the Club has accomplished in 2023 which includes approximately 2,000 gallons of trash collected with 857 volunteer hours logged.

Karen Easton (15205 Cruiser Street) and Candy Tidmore (15322 Bowsprit) with the Island Garden Club, addressed the Committee and spoke to Ulberg Park at 14126 Jackfish Avenue. The Club has adopted this park and they addressed key issues they have experienced within the Park. The Garden Club planted a patch of wildflowers within the Park and placed a sign notifying mowing contractors to avoid this area. The mowers seem to not notice this sign; Ms. Tidmore inquired if a park checklist could be provided to contractors beforehand to be mindful of specific areas within the Park. They explained there is an existing asphalt trail that has severely deteriorated and is a safety concern. They requested assistance from PARD when disposing of bulk trash when the Club does seasonal cleanup. Most of the adopters do not have trucks able to haul trash and they have to travel a good distance to the dumpsters at Packery Channel.

#### C. Approval of Absences: Howard Schauer & Thomas Cronnon

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

#### D. Approval of Minutes

1. [24-0350](#) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2024

A motion was made by Adam Rios to approve the minutes listed above and it was seconded by Shawn Flanagan. The motion passed.

**E. Director's Report**

2. [24-0351](#) Parks & Recreation Updates for April 2024

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

- Sherrill Park Master Plan
- Waldron Park Parking Improvements
- Upcoming Events
- Spring Break Youth Camps
- New Basketball Backstops
- Annual TRAPS Conference

Discussion continued regarding the parking issues at Waldron Park and how the new, multi-purpose parking pad will help alleviate some of the concerns. Adjacent neighborhoods have been overwhelmed with traffic and concern has also been raised with emergency vehicle access. Staff informed the Committee that Park Compliance Staff will be on patrol during events to issue tickets for parking violations. Discussion also took place regarding the rental agreement with Hornet Soccer League and how their game schedule will be more evenly spread out.

**F. Unfinished Business for Discussion or Possible Action**

3. [24-0232](#) Possible Ordinance Regarding Prohibition of Smoking/Tobacco Products in Certain Outdoor Areas

No action was taken on this item.

4. [24-0244](#) Bird City Texas Program

PRAC member Joan Wolfe informed the Committee about an important requirement for obtaining a Bird City Texas Certification which is to Create and Protect Habitat. She stated this action works in tandem with the Parks & Recreation 10-Year Master Plan - Goal 2: Parks System Investments, Strategy 2.1.6 Grow Zones.

To Create and Protect Habitat, natural areas in public parks must be managed to encourage the growth of native plants that provide important wildlife habitat. This can include managed, "No Mow" areas for native grasses and plants. Bird City Texas instructs documenting how the City encourages the growth of native plants that include a "no mow" schedule to allow seeding. Ms. Wolfe recommended partnering with Texas Master Naturalist, or other entity, to create a management plan for PARD that lists local native plants and best practices for installation/maintenance. No action was taken on this item.

**G. New Business for Discussion or Possible Action**

5. [24-0385](#) Harbor Bridge Parks Mitigation Update, Mai Bernal, Major Projects Engineer, Engineering Services

Ms. Bernal presented item "5" for the record as shown above. She gave updates to the initial renderings that were originally provided in 2023. She informed the Committee that the consultant, Halff Associates, have submitted design plans (60%) for Washington Coles Park, TC Ayers, Ben Garza Park and Dr. H.J. Williams Park, North Beach Trailhead and Hike/Bike Trails; Staff are currently reviewing the design plans. The City of Corpus Christi is partnering with TxDOT for this project. She gave updates regarding construction progress, the connectivity plan to North Beach and between each Parks, and budget updates.

Ms. Bernal mentioned there have been minor changes made to some of the renderings. For TC Ayers Park, a softball field and splash pad have been added to the project. For HJ Williams, an additional basketball court has been requested along with covered, shade structures. Upon conclusion of the presentation, the floor was opened for a few questions. No action was taken on this item.

**H. Committee Liaison & Subcommittee Reports**

**ADOPT-A-PARK:**

In process of creating a "standalone" webpage. A list of available parks for adoption is now available on-line. The adopt-a-park application will soon be available as an automated form and the review process will take approximately 30 to 60 days, depending on the type of adoption tier. To provide helpful information, a new "FAQ" section will also be available on the webpage. The Committee was informed of the following proposed changes to application tier categories:

Tier 1: Commit to 1.5 hrs/month of volunteer park cleanup & provide status feedback of park (application approval within 30 days)

Tier 2: Commit to Tier 1 requirement & also an additional, one time project, e.g. flower garden or purchase item with PARD approval. (Timeline for application approval: 30-60 days depending on scope of project)

Tier 3: Tier 1 & Tier 2 requirements, plus a one-time, major project, requiring a large financial donation to purchase equipment. The project will need several Department approvals. (Timeline for application approval: 30-60 days depending on scope of project)

**I. Future Agenda Items**

- Commodore Park Proposed Master Plan
- Harbor Bridge Parks Mitigation Project
- Parker Park Dog Park

**J. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.