

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

KERRVILLE, TEXAS
SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

On Thursday, September 14, 2017 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regular meeting was called to order by Diane McMahon, Chair at 8:15 a.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Diane McMahon, Chair; Greg Shrader Vice-Chair; Rose Bradshaw, Bedford Mitchell, Lisa Nye-Salladin, John Harrison, Jim Gardner

ABSENT MEMBERS:

Jacklyn Kayne, Jay Munson

STAFF PRESENT:

Ashlea Boyle, Director of Parks and Recreation; Tina North, Office Manager; Stuart Cunyus, Public Information Officer; Mark McDaniel, City Manager

1. VISITOR / CITIZENS FORUM

None.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2A. Approval of minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting held on July 27, 2017. Mr. Shrader moved to approve the minutes; motion was seconded by Ms. Bradshaw and passed 7-0.

3. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

3A. Arundo Donax Presentation by Tara Bushnoe and Ray Buck, UGRA.

Ms. Bushnoe gave a slide show presentation and discussed the following on Arundo Donax (AD):

- Background – introduced from Mediterranean region in early 1800s; grows over 20 feet and widely planted throughout the U.S. as an ornamental and used for erosion control.
- Description – tough, fibrous roots; rooted deeply in soil, formant and brown in the winter.
- Ecological Threat – chokes riverside and stream channels, crowds out and suppressed native plants. AD interferes with flood control and increased fire potential while reducing habitat for wildlife.
- Control Methods – using herbicide application, leave in place for two years and retreat or remove new growth. It is highly recommended that a person does not cut, mow, till, bulldoze, or shred AD, as even the smallest particle of AD will regrow.
- Proposed Approach – UGRA recommends that groups hold demonstrations in areas of Kerrville to educate local residents on how to control and eliminate eruption.

Mr. Buck recommended to the board that they consider asking the city to partner with UGRA and Texas Parks and Wildlife in holding demonstrations of how, when, and why Arundo Donax should be controlled on city property and possibly private properties in and around the city.

Mr. McDaniel thanked the board members for their service and to recommend that the board, moving forward, hold their quarterly meetings in City Council Chambers; and consider have all meetings televised and live streamed.

3B. Projects Update

Ms. Boyle gave a slide show presentation and provided updates on the following:

1. Project Overview for the Sports Complex – 95% completion, 4 out of 5 contractors are wrapping up; staff will take over as contractors complete their parts. Due to challenges with grow-in, the soccer fields will not be ready to play on until spring 2018. Local youth soccer programs will continue to play at the Loop 534 fields and will be able to use the Sports Complex after the first of the year. The soccer agreements for the Sports Complex were scheduled to go before City Council for approval at the next council meeting. In addition, City Council has approved a license agreement with the Cailloux Foundation for partial fencing around the new soccer fields along Holdsworth, a traffic signal with a pedestrian crossing and entry sign monuments.
2. River Trail West – in the final design phase; the next trail segment will run from Lowry Park to the Dieter Center Trailhead and will be approximately one-half mile. Design plans expected to come in this week with a bid in October and award in November with completion set for summer of 2018.
3. H-E-B Tennis Center Renovation Project – \$1.5 million project funded through the EIC and approved by City Council. Design contract awarded with design process to begin in October. Design phase to begin in December and completion slated for June of 2019.

3C. Director's Report

Ms. Boyle gave a slide show presentation and provided updates on the following:

1. Aquatics Division Activities:

- a. Operating Season – The Olympic Pool operating season was May 27th through July 31st with 13,624 in total attendance. This was a 27% increase from 2016. The season is based on the inability to retain lifeguards.
- b. Programs – three sessions of Swim Lessons with 206 participants, private swim lessons had 15 participants and is seeing continued interest, there were 97 morning lap swimmers, and 443 Senior Water Aerobics participants.
- c. Lifeguard Audits – received two Unannounced Operational Safety Audits by our Aquatic Risk Management Company, Ellis & Associates. The aquatics staff scored “exceeds” in June and “meets” in July.
- d. Guard Team – the competitive team did exceptionally well and attended three competitions receiving 1st place overall at Texas SuperGuard; 1st overall at Central Texas Lifeguard Competition, and 1st at the State Lifeguard Championship. The team was featured on KENS5.
- e. Rentals – the pool had 10 private pool parties and 17 pavilion rentals throughout the summer.

2. Recreation and Special Events:

- a. Kids Triathlon – this event was held August 19th, had 70 participants, and was sponsored by Hill Country Bicycle Works.
- b. Wet 'N Wag – this event was also held August 19th, had 17 dog participants, and was co-sponsored by Dogology and H-E-B.
- c. Kerrville Skate Competition – this event was held on June 17th, had 12 participants, and was sponsored by T-N-J Engraving.

- d. Punt, Pass, & Kick – this event was held August 20th and had 5 participants. This was the last year for this event to be held as the NFL eliminated the program.
- e. National Get Outdoors Day – this event was held June 10th and was very successful. The city will continue holding this event and is looking to expand activities for next year.
- f. Robert Earl Keen's 4th on the River – held July 4th and was well attended. Fireworks were once again sponsored by Mamacitas.
- g. Movies in the Park – this year's five series event, sponsored by The Bosworth Company and The Cailloux Foundation, was held at both Louise Hays Park and Kerrville-Schreiner Park. This event continues to grow in popularity. It started in 2008 with 75 in attendance for the first movie. It has grown to over 250 some nights. Complimentary popcorn is provided to attendees at this free event.
- h. Upcoming events - *Family Fright Night* to be held October 31st at Louise Hays Park, the annual *Holiday Lighted Parade* to be held November 18th, and *A Night in Whoville!* to be held December 9th at Kerrville-Schreiner Park.

4. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- 4A. Nominations for the Grand Marshal for the *Holiday Lighted Parade* to be held November 18, 2017.

Ms. Bradshaw made a motion to nominate the 2017 Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year for this year's Grand Marshal; motion seconded by Greg Schrader and passed 7-0.

5. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- 5A. Board members discussed scheduling a special meeting to be held on September 21, 2017.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- 6A. Diane McMahon invited board members to visit the Upper Guadalupe River Authority building to observe the native plants and landscaping plans that include rain water harvesting and water conservation.


Ms. Boyle introduced Stuart Cunyus, Public Information Officer.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

John Harrison moved to adjourn; seconded by Bedford Mitchell; meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

APPROVED: 
Diane McMahon, Chair

DATE: 12/17/2017

ATTEST: 
Ashlea Boyle, Director of Parks and Recreation

RECORDING SECRETARY: 
Tina North, Office Manager