

MEMBERS PRESENT

Celeste Hamman, Chair; Lisa Nye-Salladin, Vice-Chair; Matthew Thurlow; Wayne Uecker; Jesse Olivera; Lynda Ables; Rose Bradshaw; Dr. Charles Hueber

ABSENT MEMBERS

Greg Peschel

STAFF PRESENT

Ashlea Boyle, Director of Parks and Recreation; Rosa Ledesma, Parks and Recreation Specialist; Tina North, Office Manager; and Malcolm Matthews, Consultant.

CALL TO ORDER

On Thursday, September 17, 2020 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regular meeting was called to order by Celeste Hamman, Chair at 8:15 a.m. in the meeting room at the Butt-Holdsworth Memorial Library Meeting Room.

INVOCATION

Offered by Lynda Ables

REFLECTION

Offered by Celeste Hamman

1. VISITOR / CITIZENS FORUM

None.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2A. Approval of minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regular meeting held on December 5, 2019. Rose Bradshaw motioned to approve the minutes; motion was seconded by Dr. Charles Hueber and passed 8-0.

3. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

3A. Projects Update

Malcolm Matthews gave a presentation and provided updates on the following projects:

River Trail (Schreiner University Segment) – Project complete. Approximate one mile trail on the north bank of the Guadalupe River from G St to Schreiner University. Schreiner University will be contributing \$50,000 to this project along with a restroom at the campus trailhead, a beer garden, and disc golf course improvements that will be open to the public. \$1.5M project.

Tennis Complex Improvement Project – Project complete. Sidewalk improvements were made and upgrades were done to the existing pro shop; court resurfacing; enhanced connectivity between courts; landscaping; drainage issues were addressed and rectified. \$1.75M project.

Rainwater Catchment System – Project complete. Rain catchment tank is approximately 51,000 gallons. The Louise Hays Park Large Pavilion was guttered to capture rainwater, and the captured rainwater is used to irrigate landscaping. Project includes wall work on the tank, installation of an irrigation system, and landscaping. Approximately 40 Arizona

Cypress trees were planted for this purpose and to provide screening between the park and the apartment complex. \$35K project.

Mrs. Boyle gave a presentation and provided updates on the following:

Aquatics Feasibility Study – Discussed updates regarding this project. Contractors started the re-plaster project in September and completed the project in October. The next steps are to receive the final study, hold the third and final public meeting, and start pump filter repairs in the fall of 2020.

3B. **Public Art**

Jesse Olivera presented a sample mural displaying landmarks in Kerrville for the bridge wall in Louise Hays Park, and ideas were discussed by the board. The board recommended that Mr. Olivera take the ideas and put together a design to present to the board for consideration.

3C. **Volunteer Program**

Deferred to a future meeting.

3D. **Fall / Winter Event Restrictions and Impacts Due to COVID-19**

Mrs. Boyle gave a presentation and provided updates on the following:

- COVID-19 Update Impacts to Parks and Recreation – Impacts included:
 - A hiring “chill” for the Assistant Director and two maintenance worker positions, budget cuts, salary adjustments, and no merit raises for FY21.
 - In accordance to Governor’s orders, any outdoor gatherings in excess of ten people are prohibited unless the mayor approves the event.
 - All Parks and Recreation special events have been canceled.
 - Park rentals with capacity restrictions were set in place, as well as, playground, water fountains, gathering points, and water feature closures. All have been reopened.
 - Golf and Tennis had to adjust operations, tee times were by reservation only.
 - Maintenance staff increased sanitization and disinfection protocols for buildings, playgrounds, and restrooms.
 - Kerrville-Schreiner Park closed for new reservations from March through May; honoring existing reservations only and offered no hassle refunds including waiving of the cancellation fee. The office opened reservations back up on June 1st, with day use capacity restrictions.
 - The Olympic Pool had a delayed opening.
- Pandemic Preparedness – Signage was increased in City parks which reminded citizens to be safe while in our open spaces.
- Kerrville-Schreiner Park COVID-19 Impacts – The Park Office processed 829+ cancellations due to COVID-19. Reservations were not being accepted from mid-March to May 31, 2020. Day use maximum capacity is in place to date.
- Scott Schreiner Golf Course COVID-19 Impacts – Course was closed on April 10, 2020 and reopened April 23, 2020. Time was added between tee times and golf carts were temporarily unable to be rented.
- Community Supported Events Canceled – The following community events were canceled due to COVID-19: Kerrville Festival of the Arts, REK’s Fourth on the River, Kerrville CHALK Festival, and the Kerrville Triathlon Festival.

- Parks and Recreation Department Special Events Canceled 2020 – The following events were canceled due to COVID-19: Kerrville-Schreiner Park Promo Days, Spring Family Picnic, Concerts by the River, Mother & Son Dance, Skateboard Competition, Movies in the Park – Summer Series and Halloween Series, Kids Triathlon, Wet N’ Wag, Kerrville River Roadster Show, Haunted GhouL Pool, Family Fright Night, Kerrville River Festival, Holiday Lighted Parade, and Snow on the Island.
- Community Workouts – In an effort to continue to provide services to the community, the department partnered with a local garage gym to provide socially distanced workouts that community members could do at home or in our parks.
- Socially Distanced Activities – Recreation division provided an opportunity for families to complete online and socially-distanced activities at home or in our parks during the pandemic.

3E. **Director’s Report**

Mrs. Boyle gave a presentation on the following:

Events and Activities Updates

- Running Home for the Holidays 5K – The event was held in December 2019 with 50 participants. Next run to be held on December 7, 2020, staff is considering a virtual 5K run depending on Governor’s guidelines for COVID-19.
- Light the Island Project – A phased Kerrville 2050 action item project. This project consists of up lighting for an enhanced experience with the goal to light approximately 100 trees along Tranquility Island. Electrical infrastructure installation required for expansion.
- Snow on the Island – Artificial snow machines on two Saturday evenings in December of 2019; approximately 50 people were in attendance. This would have been expanded to every Saturday for December 2020 if not for COVID-19.
- Daddy & Daughter Dance – Held February 16th at the Hill Country Youth Event Center. This event started in 2009 with 200 participants and in 2020, 575 tickets were sold. This event has sold out every year and was the only event held in 2020 due to COVID-19 cancellations.

Aquatics Operations

- Carver Park Sprayground – The Sprayground had a delayed opening due to COVID-19 restrictions. This feature operated from May 29th through October 31st with extended hours from 10 a.m. to dark (previously closed at 7:00 p.m.).
- Olympic Pool – The pool operated from June 16th through August 22nd with total attendance of 8,720. Delayed opening and extended season to correspond with the KISD school schedule. The original operational schedule was May 23rd – August 14th.
- Rentals – The pool had 3 private pool parties, 4 pavilion rentals, and 33 picnic area rentals throughout the summer. Groups larger than 10 were unable to book rentals due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Programs – Three sessions of group Swim Lessons were offered with a total of 111 participants, Private Swim Lessons had 19 participants, and Semi-Private Swim Lessons had 8 participants. Group Swim Lessons had a 73% enrollment rate, which is a 20% decrease from 2019, however, class sizes were reduced due to COVID-19. Lap Swim had 180 participants and Water Aerobics had 500 participants

- Jr. Lifeguard Camp – One week half-day camp to learn essentials of guarding and aquatic safety for ages 10-14 years. 8 participants.
- Promo Days – Of the six themed days, two themed days were held, the Father's Day Special which had 30 participants, and the Shark Week Promo that had 6 participants. Aquatics Safety Day, Family Swim Night, Independence Day Celebration, and the Olympic Pool 50th Birthday Bash were all canceled due to COVID-19.
- Lifeguard Audits – The Olympic Pool received two unannounced operational safety audits by our Aquatics Risk Management Company Jeff Ellis & Associates. The aquatics staff scored "meets expectations" on both audits.

Leagues and Park Operations

- Adult Soccer League – The summer league was held at the Kerrville Sports Complex with 6 teams. A winter league was held at the Loop 534 sports fields with 6 teams.
- Adult Flag Football League – A spring league was held at the Loop 534 sports fields with five participating teams. Only four games were played due to COVID-19. Prorated refunds were given back to teams.
- Kerrville-Schreiner Park – Promotional efforts are in the works with Mother's Day and Father's Day specials, finalizing a new logo, and promoting campsite rental specials for the month of September that have generated 32 reservations to date.
- Golf Promos and Highlights – Increased promotion of the Golf Course with new golf carts, and currently in the process of creating a logo. Total number of rounds played this fiscal year is approximately 24,000 rounds.
- Kerrville Sports Complex – Due to COVID-19 the Sports Complex was closed from March 2020 through May 2020. D-BAT tournaments resumed on June 6th and fall soccer resumed in September. The Sports Complex received a \$500,000 grant from The Cailloux Foundation for improvements to be split between two years; \$300k for Pod 3 lighting in 2020 (which is completed), and \$200K for further improvements such as artificial turf for the full-pens and high wear areas in 2021.
- 2020 Activity Guide – This 60 page guide is the best one yet, and we were unable to print this year's guide due to budget cuts. The guide is available on the City's website. The department tagline was finalized as "Get Outdoors. Be Active. Play."
- Parks and Recreation Month – July was National Parks and Recreation Month; this year's theme was "We are Parks and Recreation". A proclamation was given to the department by the Kerrville City Council.
- Community Pride – Lamppost banners supporting 2020 graduates were placed downtown and in Louise Hays Park. Banners were purchased by the schools.
- Ribbon Cuttings – These ceremonies were held in small groups due to COVID-19 restrictions; Tennis Complex on July 31st; Rainwater Catchment Tank on August 19th; and River Trail – Schreiner University Segment held on September 4th.

Board Terms – Mrs. Boyle shared the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Terms, as follows:

- Terms to expire March 31, 2021:
 - Members eligible for reappointment: Wayne Uecker, Greg Peschel, Jesse Olivera and Charles Hueber.
 - Members 2nd terms to expire: Rose Bradshaw and Lisa Nye-Salladin.

- Terms to expire April 1, 2022:
 - Members 2nd terms to expire: Celeste Hamman, Matthew Thurlow, and Lynda Ables.

4. **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**
None.

5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**
None.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**
Adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

APPROVED: Celeste Hamman
Celeste Hamman, Chair

DATE: 12/17/2020

ATTEST: ABoyle
Ashlea Boyle, Director of Parks and Recreation

RECORDING SECRETARY: Tina North
Tina North, Office Manager