

MEMBERS PRESENT

Celeste Hamman, Chair; Dr. Charles Huebner, Vice-Chair; Erik Silvius, Wayne Uecker, Morgan Bond, David Bartels, Lynda Ables,

ABSENT MEMBERS

Karen Yanez, Matthew Thurlow

STAFF PRESENT

Ashlea Boyle, Director of Parks and Recreation; Julie Behrens, Assistant Director of Finance; Malcolm Matthews, Consultant; Rosa Ledesma, Recreation Specialist; Tina North, Office Manager

CALL TO ORDER

On Tuesday, June 1, 2021 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regular meeting was called to order by Celeste Hamman, Chair at 4:19 p.m. in the meeting room at the Butt-Holdsworth Memorial Library Meeting Room.

INVOCATION

Offered by Lynda Ables

1. **VISITOR / CITIZENS FORUM**

None.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2A. Approval of minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board regular meeting held on March 25, 2021 and special meeting held on April 27, 2021. Lynda Ables motioned to approve the minutes; motioned was seconded by Erik Silvius and passed 6-0.

Wayne Uecker arrived at 4:24 p.m.

3. **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**

3A. **Parks Ambassador Program**

Celeste Hamman introduced a program link that will allow the public to volunteer with various events held by the Recreation Division. Charles Huebner explained the process of how volunteers sign up and Rosa Ledesma gave clarification of how this link would be beneficial to the public. Board members were asked to assist as beta testers for the new sign up link.

Ashlea Boyle spoke about offering golf cart tours on the River Trail, as per several request from the public. Mrs. Boyle recommended that board members consider including this service with the Ambassador Program in order to select from the pool of volunteers.

3B. **Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan Update**

Parks and Recreation Open Space Master Plan Update – Malcolm Matthews discussed that the purpose of the master plan is to continue to amend the direction of the Kerrville Parks and Recreation system to meet current and anticipated needs / trends / goals. In addition, the master plan is to follow the 2050 Comprehensive Plan as the guide to formulate the specifics and details, as well as, to qualify for state grants and conform to state planning guidelines given by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Mr. Matthews distributed a handout and discussed the draft plan outline that is given by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Guiding Principles

- E3 – Continue to focus on quality of life attributes and enhancements as a high priority, balancing growth with community and individual well-being and the need to preserve a healthy / beautiful environment unique to Kerrville.
- P4 – Update the Parks Master Plan, other applicable codes and ordinances and capital planning and funding priorities to support Kerrville 2050.
- P5 – Focus on enhancing / investing in existing parks, their purpose or repurpose and improving accessibility before acquiring land for new parks.
- P6 – Focus on connecting businesses, neighborhoods, major destinations and other amenities with parks, open spaces, and the river corridor.
- P8 – Provide recreational opportunities for people of all ages and abilities, both residents and tourists

Action Items

- P4.1 – Develop a new Parks Master Plan that rethinks parks, recognizing their social, recreational, ecological and public health benefits.
- P4.4 – Amend the park dedication ordinance to further promote improvements to existing and future parks.
- P5.2 – Explore a variety of options, including bonds, to fund park facility needs and to enhance River Trail connections.
- P5.5 – Complete a feasibility study and consider bond funding and local partnerships with KISD and SU to rebuild / build the city's Olympic Pool and aquatics amenities.
- P5.9 – Develop open space guidelines relative to new development with different place types.
- P5.10 – Improve / add to Carver Park pavilion restrooms and encourage greater community involvement in this park.
- P5.13 – Consider repurposing the Singing Wind ball parks.
- P5.18 – Avoid the acquisition or development of public pocket parks due to high maintenance costs and low utilization.
- P6.2 – Add bike and pedestrian safe routes for better access to the River Trail.
- P6.5 – Continue developing a vision / plan and identify funding options to extend the River Trail.
- P8.8 – Enhance the existing Lehmann-Monroe dog park, and add a second fenced Dog Park.
- E3.2 – Put in place amid to long range plan to extend the River Trail and add additional segments.
- E3.3 – Seek EIC funding to extend the River Trail further west to the Thompson Drive bridge.

Mr. Matthews and Mrs. Boyle discussed the Singing Wind Park as potentially being a major part of this master plan. Singing Wind Park consists of a playground, ball fields, a Skate Park, the Olympic Pool, trails and a maintenance building.

Discussed were some generalized ideas associated with the plan and potential enhancements were listed as the following:

1. Re-purpose ball fields
2. Enhance Skate park
3. Pool improvements
4. Dog Park
5. Disc Golf

6. BMX track
7. Restroom / concession building improvement

Board members were asked to participate in an exercise, allowing their input on some of their ideas for enhancements.

3C. Director's Report

River Trail Extension to Downtown – discussed the next phase of the Kerrville River Trail. A feasibility analysis of the River Trail extension from G Street to Tranquility Island is in progress. City Council has finalized a funding agreement with the Economic Improvement Corporation for development of the Concept Study on January 12th with completion of this study in May of 2021.

Kerrville-Schreiner Park Improvements – consulting firm has been hired to design a concept for much needed improvements on the Hillside / Southside of the parks large field area. Design scopes include: water line replacement, new RV sites, new cabins, new Tiny Homes, and several new amenities. The firm was asked to address and consult on a pedestrian crossing along Hwy. 173.

Light the Island Project – approximate \$200K project. This project consists of up lighting for an enhanced experience with the goal to light approximately 110 trees along Tranquility Island. The city is working with the Kerrville Christmas Lighting Corporation on raising funds for the electrical project estimated at \$100K. EIC has agreed to match that contribution and an agreement was approved by the City Council on March 23, 2021. Future potential opportunities from the Light the Island project will be that these lights would be programmable to provide opportunity to light up other holidays such as the 4th of the River and the Kerrville River Festival and would also support a development for a Christmas destination experience in the city.

Library Stairs to Tranquility Island – this projects scope is to replace existing wood stairs with a concrete ramp to meet ADA standards. Design is approximately 75% complete with the anticipation that bidding / construction will commence late spring / summer 2021.

Olympic Pool Repairs – the Olympic Pool was built in 1970. All repairs are due to the old and aging infrastructure.

- o Repair #1 – Austin Pro Leak detected two leaks; a large structural crack approximately 25' – 30' in the pool shell that is leaking at a high rate and a gutter line leak beneath the deck. Repairs for the leaks are currently underway with a cost for repair of \$27,000
- o Repair #2 – Mechanical issues in the pool pump room; filters and pump infrastructure are failing and need to be replaced with a cost for repair of \$130,000

Activity Guide – to be mailed June 2nd to all residents of Kerrville and printed copies are available at the Park Office for pick up. Featured are upcoming events like the Mother / Son Dance and the Daddy / Daughter Dance.

3D. Discussion regarding board member liaisons for department activities, programs, special events and areas of interest

Mrs. Hamman spoke about creating a database for Kerrville to encourage residents and local businesses to volunteer to help with upcoming events. Ideas were discussed.

4. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

4A. None.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

5A. None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

APPROVED: Celeste Hamman
Celeste Hamman, Chair

DATE: 9/7/2021

ATTEST: ABoyle
Ashlea Boyle, Director of Parks and Recreation

RECORDING SECRETARY: Tina North
Tina North, Office Manager