

**MINUTES
CITY OF TAYLOR
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
August 17, 2016
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
400 PORTER STREET
TAYLOR, TEXAS 76574
6:00 P.M.**

PRESENT

Larry Cmerek
Laurie Connally
Kathleen Eason
Gary Gola
Andrew Gonzales
Jennifer Jewett
Ginger Schneider
Timothy Tebeau, student member
Lonnie Zycha

ABSENT

David Morris
Staci Roznovak-Burris

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike DeVito, P&R Superintendent
Leisha Morrison, Admin Assist
Isaac Turner, City Manager
Robert Garcia, Councilman
Brent Humphreys, Project LOOP
Chisum Pierce, Visitor
Scurry Ellis, Visitor

The meeting was called to order and a quorum declared at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation was given by Committee member City Manager Isaac Turner

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

REGULAR AGENDA

Approve minutes from the June 15, 2016 meeting

Motion: made by Committee member Ginger Schneider to approve minutes as presented.

Second: Committee member Kathleen Eason.

Vote: All voted aye.

Minutes approved.

Citizens Communications

Brent Humphreys spoke regarding the Skate Park.

Scurry Ellis spoke regarding Pickleball.

Update on Kite Day

Kite Day will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2016. If weather does not allow for it that day, then it will be held the following weekend. Information will be forwarded to the Library and into the City newsletter. Fliers will be given to schools, banners will be out, yard signs will be available to everyone and posters will be posted at city offices and businesses. There have already been articles in the Taylor Daily Press and information is on the City's website and Facebook page. No action taken on this item.

Discuss Pickleball

Scurry Ellis spoke regarding of bringing Pickle ball play to the city of Taylor. Parks and Recreation Superintendent Mike DeVito said that it might be possible to use part of the existing tennis courts for

Pickleball. It was suggested that the Area Pickleball Association have a booth at Kite Day to hand out information regarding Pickleball. Mr. Ellis is trying to get Tuesdays and Sundays for play time. Mr. DeVito will have more information for the next Parks meeting. No action taken on this item.

Update on Disc Golf

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Mike DeVito will follow up with the Bill Pickett Foundation to see how their fundraising is coming along. The approximate 20,000.00 cost for a 9 hole course, includes the design, the boxes, throwing pads, the clearing work that will have to be done. Mr. DeVito has been approached about creating a "Friends of the Park" group. No action taken on this item.

Discuss Tennis Court drainage

The drainage issue is coming from the west side of the tennis courts. Water is seeping through the concrete wall and flooding over the tennis courts. No action taken on this item.

Discuss duck population

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Mike DeVito is working with the Texas Parks and Wildlife to seek remedies for the overpopulation of ducks in the parks, mainly Bull Branch park. Residents have shown interest in taking some of the ducks, but the need to keep the count at a manageable level will continue, so the idea of collecting the eggs and transferring them will be considered. Mr. DeVito will work on getting educational signage installed and has ordered duck repellent to spray on and around the pavilion and trails. Mr. DeVito stated that lack of natural predators is the cause for the overpopulation of the ducks. No action taken on this item.

Discuss Skate Park

Project LOOP founder Brent Humphreys spoke regarding the combination of the skate park and the Heritage park projects, including shade structures, splashpad, benches and tables. Parks and Recreation Superintendent Mike DeVito stated that both projects would have their own budgets. Mr. Humphreys stated that the skate park will be open to the public, no fencing, no fee to use it. He said skate parks are very low maintenance. He was asked about restroom accessibility and said, along with Mr. DeVito that restrooms are in the Downtown Master Plan for Heritage park, which will be available for skate park users.

Motion by: Committee member Kathleen Eason to recommend to City Council to approve the grant application of the Skate Park and Heritage park as presented by Mr. DeVito.

2nd: Committee member Ginger Schneider

Vote: Ayes: All Nays: none

Motion passed.

Discuss 2016 TPWD Grant Project

This item was discussed in conjunction with the Skate Park item.

Update on trail projects

Currently there are 2 projects. One is the TXDOT trail from WalMart to downtown, which will start next month and be completed March 2017. The second one is the completion of the crosstown trail from Lynn & Davis to East 5th street into Robinson park, which should start next month and be completed sometime next year. No action taken on this item.

Update on 2016 Parks Master Plan

The 2016 Parks Master Plan was submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife on July 29, 2016. It was due on August 1, 2016. No action taken on this item.

Discuss development of an additional soccer field at the Taylor Regional Park

Durcon is requesting an additional soccer field be installed at the Taylor Regional Park for young players. The field would be a "junior" field, which is half the size of an adult soccer field. The Parks Foundation would pay 27,000.00 for installation of the field and Durcon would pay back 24,000.00 to the Parks Foundation over a 3 year period. The field would be named after Durcon.

Motion by: Committee member Kathleen Eason to recommend to City Council to allow Durcon to develop the soccer field at the Taylor Regional Park.

2nd: Committee member Ginger Schneider

Vote: Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion passed.

Identify items for next meeting

- Update on Pickleball
- Kite Day Report
- Disposition of West End School
- Tennis Court drainage Update
- Duck population
- Texas Parks & Wildlife grant update
- Update on Trails projects
- Additional soccer field at TRPSC update
- Update on dogs in park signage

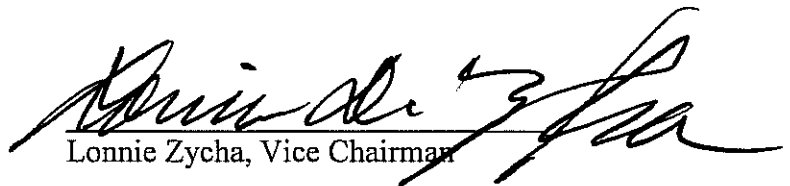
Next meeting date:

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 21, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.



Gary Gola, Chairman



Lonnie Zycha, Vice Chairman