



## Parks Board 2018-2019

Jason Mangum, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Randy Troxell, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation  
Kevin Browne, Recreation Superintendent  
Barry Hamilton, Parks Superintendent  
Pamela Andrews, Board Member  
Alan Atwater, Board Member  
J.R. Atkins, Board Member  
Diane Giltner, Board Member

Don Johnson, Board Member  
Thomasine Johnson, Board Member  
Adrian Matteucci, Board Member  
Sharman McGilbert, Vice-Chair  
Brian Merchant, Board Member  
Victoria Porter, Board Member  
Buddy Snyder, Board Member  
Llarence Turner, Chairman

# PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 7, 2019

## ATTENDEES

### Board members in attendance:

J.R. Atkins, Diane Giltner, Don Johnson, Adrian Matteucci, Vice-Chair Sharman McGilbert, Brian Merchant, Victoria Porter, Buddy Snyder, and Chairman Llarence Turner.

**Absent were:** Pamela Andrews, Alan Atwater and Thomasine Johnson, all excused.

**Staff members in attendance:** Director of Parks & Recreation Jason Mangum, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation Randy Troxell, Parks Superintendent Barry Hamilton, Recreation Superintendent Kevin Browne, Facility Operations Manager Kyle Frye, Assistant Chief of Police Lance Bothell, Police Captain Paul Poulton, Assistant City Attorney James Santangelo, First Assistant City Attorney Jamilah Way, and Administrative Assistant Tricia Yurcak.

**Others in attendance:** Jana McMullen, Rachael Conegie, Melanie Jackson, Logan Guthrie, and Adrian Mask.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

### 2. CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 6, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

Board member D. Johnson made a motion to approve of the minutes. Board member Giltner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jana McMullen of 2103 Quail Valley East Drive updated the Board on progress at Sta-Mo Sports Complex improvements made by Sta-Mo Pony Baseball. She asked that the bleachers at Sta-Mo Sports Complex be made a priority to be installed and informed staff of more skylights in the restroom with holes in them. She stated that Sta-Mo Pony Baseball wants to have a good relationship with the City but to also stay afloat financially.

### 4. DISCUSS SAFETY CONCERNS AT BUFFALO RUN PARK

Assistant Chief of Police Bothell presented the item. He stated there has been growing concern about safety at Buffalo Run Park over the last 2.5 years due to homicides at the park. He stated the first two cases have been solved and had arrests, and that staff is confident the most recent two will be solved. No residents of Missouri City were involved, and all crimes were gang-related. They have made arrangements so that Buffalo Run Park gets more patrols. Out of the 44 total crimes at Buffalo Run Park in 2018, 28 of those were narcotics-related and self-initiated, meaning officers on were on proactive patrol.

Board member Giltner asked about when the gates at Buffalo Run Park were installed. Assistant Chief Bothell stated they were installed 1.5 years ago. Captain Poulton stated that the gates are helpful but they do not stop people from entering the park by foot. Vice-Chair McGilbert asked if there was a specific area of the park where

crimes were happening. Captain Poulton stated crimes occurred all around the park. He stated staff are working on new ideas and solutions such as security cameras in the park within the next two months. Captain Poulton stated that even with these crimes, Missouri City has been named as the fifth safest city in Texas, beating out Sugar Land, Pearland and other nearby cities.

## **5. DISCUSS SPONSORSHIPS FOR MAINTENANCE OF CITY ATHLETIC FIELDS**

Assistant City Attorney Santangelo stated he looked into what other cities were doing for sponsorships, and several Texas cities have comprehensive policies on sponsorships for park maintenance, specifically New Braunfels, Pearland, and Georgetown. They advertise their various City events that they put on each year and offer sponsorship packages.

He stated the City has a donation fund and some of that money can be used for specific expenditures, and if the Board wanted to recommend that, staff can have a conversation with the Financial Services Department.

It was also discussed to use the Parks Foundation to support the City in their acquisition and ownership of land and having donations go through the Parks Foundation to support their general mission.

He stated that outside organizations would need to comply with the sign ordinance in chapter 16 for placing signs at City parks or fields, but if a sign is placed by the City, then it's exempt from certain requirements of the sign ordinance. For a donation the City can place a sign on a temporary or season-long basis and there likely wouldn't be issues.

He stated the next steps would be creating policy. Director Mangum stated once staff members have the framework, they can start drafting policies in the next 4-6 weeks. Board members Matteucci and Atkins volunteered to assist.

## **6. CONSIDER RENEWAL OF RECOGNIZED SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS**

Facilities Operations Manager Frye introduced the first renewal applicant, RISE Soccer Club, who requested renewal for Spring. Staff recommended approval, as the organization is in good standing with the City. Board member Snyder made a motion to approve. Board member Merchant seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

Facilities Operations Manager Frye introduced the second renewal applicant, Missouri City Little League. Staff recommended approval, as the organization is in good standing with the City. Board member D. Johnson made a motion to approve. Board member Giltner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

## **7. STAFF REPORTS**

### **a. Parks Projects: Assistant Parks & Recreation Director Randy Troxell**

Board member D. Johnson asked about the Herrin Tract project. Director Mangum stated he updated City Council on the project recently. The biggest question has been how to fund the project. It was designed with natural resource grants in mind, but they all come with a match from the City.

Board member Snyder asked about improvements at Independence Park. Assistant Director Troxell stated that there were plans to get another trash can, and staff are working on getting restrooms at the park, but there is no connection to a water line nearby and there are obstacles with the closest two connections. Director Mangum stated that they were looking at alternative funding sources for Independence Park specifically to make improvements.

Board member Porter asked when the bleacher pads plan to be installed at Sta-Mo Sports Complex, and if there was anything that can be put on the roof temporarily. Director Mangum said we have quotes for the roofs to be totally redone with metal roofing which will last a lot longer, but that staff could look into putting tarps on the roof in the meantime.

**b. Parks Operations: Parks Superintendent Barry Hamilton**

Parks Superintendent Hamilton's report was in the provided agenda packets.

**c. Recreation: Recreation Superintendent Kevin Browne**

Recreation Superintendent Browne provided an update on some of the new programs starting. Board member Snyder asked about low attendance numbers and what is being used to advertise programs and increase participation. Recreation Superintendent Browne stated marketing tools include Facebook, the City website, flyers, the PeachJar app through Fort Bend I.S.D., and word of mouth. Director Mangum stated that the e-newsletter is another effective tool. He added that a lot of new programs take a while to grow and there have been many new programs in the last few months.

**8. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Director Mangum stated staff are in the beginning stages of developing a program for the department to partner with nearby organizations and businesses to get funding for the parks.

He also stated that the construction of the skatepark at Community Park is due to finish up soon. Staff are planning an event to commemorate the grand opening.

There were no **BOARD REPORTS**.

There were no **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**.

**11. ADJOURN**

With no further items to discuss, Chairman Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.