



## City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Simpson Room  
401 N. Alexander Street  
Belton, TX  
Monday, May 5, 2014 – 5:30 pm

A meeting of the City of Belton Parks Board was held on Monday, May 5, 2014, in the Simpson Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Diane Ring, T.R. McLaughlin, Daniel Bucher, Jason Wolfe, and Chair Josh Pearson. City Staff in attendance included Assistant Public Works Director Byron Sinclair, Recreation and Events Director Sandy Slade, Parks Superintendent James Grant, and Recreation Coordinator Matt Bates.

**1. Call to Order.**

Chair Josh Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**2. Public Comments.**

There were no public comments.

**3. Consider minutes from the February 3, 2014, Parks Board meeting.**

Mrs. Ring corrected a typo on item 4 and made a motion to approve the minutes with correction. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously, 5-0.

**4. Receive and discuss a proposal from Mr. Raymond Cenicerros, President of FC Belton, for the use of City owned soccer fields for the purpose of recreational and special needs play.**

Mr. Cenicerros told the board that FC Belton Soccer Club formed out of the limited options children in Belton had to choose from for recreational youth soccer. He said that after looking at various other cities recreational youth soccer leagues, he felt FC Belton could provide a safe and fun environment that would provide quality training to aid youth in their development as players. Mr. Cenicerros then stated to the board that FC Belton was in attendance to request the use of Heritage Park fields for their recreation youth soccer league, beginning the fall of 2014.

Vice President of the Children with Special Needs division (CSN), Mrs. Michelle Cenicerros gave the board an overview of FC Belton. Mrs. Cenicerros stated that FC Belton was a board driven club with a board representative for each age group, which allowed for more attention to be given to teams in each division. Mrs. Cenicerros told the board that FC Belton also has a Director of Coaching whose primary purpose is to provide volunteers and parents with information and skills to be better assist them with coaching. Mrs. Cenicerros also informed the board that FC Belton offers a U16 division, along with a Special Needs soccer division, both of which FC Belton believed to be underserved in the Central Texas area. Mrs. Cenicerros told the board that FC Belton had over 501 registered players and volunteers participate in the clubs first season in operation. Mrs. Cenicerros stated that the main reasons for needing to use Heritage Park soccer fields were the availability of bathrooms and field space.

Mr. Bucher asked for a breakdown of the players to coach/ volunteer from the 501 number stated. Vice President of the FC Belton U15 division, Alan Butler, responded with 348 players participated in the spring 2014 season.

Mrs. Ring asked how much FC Belton charged participants to play in the league. Mr. Cenicerros responded that there was a \$60 registration fee for all players and a \$30 player fee for players in the CSN league. The board was also informed that FC Belton provided each child who registered with a full uniform, which was included in the registration cost.

Mr. Wolfe asked the FC Belton members if the clubs intention was to remain strictly as a recreational soccer league or was there thought of turning the club into a select style club, where players would have to compete in tryouts to attain a spot. Mr. Cenicerros responded that the clubs foundation would always be recreational; however, if some players wanted to take part in select soccer, the club would look at options to accommodate the request outside of the recreational youth soccer league.

Mr. Pearson asked Mr. Cenicerros about the game time schedules and how many games are played during the timeframe in which they operate. Mr. Cenicerros responded that volunteers arrive at 7:00am to begin setup and games are played each hour from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Mr. Cenicerros said that they currently have 6 games being played on 6 fields (they have a total of 7 marked fields available to use) each of those hours and 1 game being played at 12:00pm.

Mr. Bucher asked FC Belton board members whether they would oppose the idea of weekday games. Mrs. Butler answered that FC Belton could indeed play weekday games if needed.

Mr. Pearson spoke with FC Belton about how best to coordinate efforts to accommodate both the current recreation youth soccer association (BCYC), and the request from FC Belton to utilize Heritage Park soccer fields. FC Belton board members responded that indeed they would be willing to work with the City and BCYC, to allow for optimal efficient use of the fields.

Mr. Pearson asked Mr. Cenicerros whether FC Belton was a registered 501c3 nonprofit. Mr. Cenicerros responded that FC Belton did not have a 501c3 license; however they were a registered non-profit and going through the process to obtain a 501c3 nonprofit.

In reference to a timeline on making a decision on the request to utilize Heritage Park soccer fields, Mr. Pearson asked Mr. Cenicerros when the first seasons games would begin for the fall of 2014. Mr. Cenicerros responded that the first scheduled games of the fall season will be on September 6, 2014. Mr. Pearson also requested more detailed financials from the organization to aid in the decision to be made.

Mr. Pearson told FC Belton that there was no recommendation requirement needed from the board at the meeting, but that he appreciated the work they were doing for the community and congratulated them on a successful first season in operation. At this point FC Belton thanked the board and excused themselves from the meeting.

Further discussion continued on the proposed request. Key points of the discussion are as follows:

- FC Belton be made to provide a 501c3 document.
- FC Belton currently has insurance in Mr. Raymond Cenicerros's name. This must change to the official organization
- Dividing Fields
- Net Provisions
- Field Marking Responsibilities
- Using CASA Regulations on field sizes.
- Enforcement of compliance

Mr. Pearson requested to conduct a special called workshop for a more in-depth discussion. Parks Board agreed upon a workshop on Monday, May 19, 2014 at 5:00pm.

**5. Board and/or Staff comments.**

Mrs. Ring asked Assistant Public Works Director Byron Sinclair for an update on the electrical issue at the Heritage Park Baseball Complex. Mr. Sinclair updated the board that all electrical outlets at the pitcher's mounds have been fixed; however, after this season all electrical outlets will be removed for safety reasons.

Mrs. Slade updated the board on the Lions Club grant for the special needs playground at Heritage Park. The board was informed that the Lions Club had raised the necessary funds within the local club, and have now submitted an application to the Lions Foundation for a decision in June. Lions Club have also selected the company for their equipment- Miracle.

Mr. Bates updated the board on the completion of Sandy Slade's recent accomplishment of becoming a Certified Playground Safety Instructor (CPSI). The board congratulated Mrs. Slade on her achievement.

Mrs. Ring asked for an update on the Guthrie Project. Mrs. Slade informed her that it is complete.

**6. Adjourn.**

Chair Pearson adjourned the meeting at 7:37pm.