



City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Kinchion Room
401 N. Alexander Street
Belton, TX
Monday, December 7th, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.

A meeting of the City of Belton Parks Board was held on Monday, December 7th, 2015, in the Kinchion Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Daniel Bucher, T.R. McLaughlin, Diane Ring, and Chair, Josh Pearson. City Staff in attendance included Recreation and Events Director, Matt Bates; Assistant Public Works Director, Byron Sinclair, and Parks Superintendent, James Grant.

1. Call to Order.

Chair Josh Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Consider the minutes from the November 2nd, 2015, Parks Board Meeting.

Ms. Ring made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. McLaughlin second the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously 4-0.

4. Receive an end-of-season Flag Football report from Les Williams, Coordinator of Sports for Belton Christian Youth Center.

Mr. Williams told the Board that a total of 94 participants took part in the BCYC fall flag football program. Mr. Williams referenced that the season was a success and enjoyed his first season in charge of Youth Sports at BCYC. Mr. Williams thanked his UMHB intern, Dexter Fulbright, for all his hard work throughout the season. Mr. Williams referenced that season play was extremely affected due to the bad weather Central Texas experienced during October, 2015. Mr. Williams stated that working with the City throughout the season was enjoyable and is looking forward to a successful spring, 2016 season

5. Receive an end-of-season report from Eric Johnson, President of Belton Youth Baseball Association.

Mr. Johnson introduced himself to the Board, and updated them on the new BYBA board, as well as its structure. Mr. Johnson reported that the association has a healthy balance of \$14,330.82 after fall 2015 baseball season. Mr. Johnson told the board that a total of 316 players participated in the league, and that similar to Flag Football, the bad weather posed several problems for the association, that they ultimately worked around. Mr. Johnson referenced that since the association took over the concessions, the results have been great, and that all revenue made from concessions stays with the association. Mr. Johnson mentioned that as they transition into spring 2016 season, they will look to be playing predominantly weeknights in hopes of increasing participation even more. Mr. Johnson did list several requests that he had for the City in regards to field and complex updates. Parks Superintendent, James Grant, updated the board that several of the items listed were already in progress, and that several of the remaining items would be completed prior to the spring season.

6. Receive an end-of-season report from Tommy Parker, President of Belton Youth Softball Association.

Mr. Bates asked that the board table this item be moved to the next Parks Board meeting, due to Mr. Parker being unable to attend.

7. Review and discuss the updated needs assessment survey prepared by Brent Luck, Luck Design Team, which will be implemented as part of the 2016-2026 Parks Strategic Master Plan.

Mr. Luck began with updating the board on what has happened since the last Parks Board meeting in November. Mr. Luck mentioned that since the last meeting, the City and Mr. Luck had decided to join forces with the Comprehensive Plan that is currently underway too. Mr. Luck explained that during the meeting, the aim for the board and staff was to review the old survey in 2009, and modify sections as needed so that they can be submitted and included into the Comprehensive plan survey. Mr. Luck explained that though there were not a set number of questions required but the intent would be to have a few more questions than in 2009 survey. Mr. Luck explained that the Comprehensive plan was aiming to release its survey at the beginning of January. Mr. Luck also mentioned that he would prefer that the community engagement meetings be separate from that of the Comprehensive plan. This would assure that Parks received the attention and detailed input so that the Master Plan Update can be a success. Mr. Luck then went through each of the questions outlining why the question was asked originally, and what we may want to change or amend. After receiving several suggestions from the board and staff, Mr. Luck mentioned that he would begin refining the survey, and send the final draft to Mr. Bates so that it could be shared between Board and Staff. Mr. Bates thanked Mr. Luck for attending the meeting and that the City of Belton was excited to get the Master Plan Update process underway.

8. Board and/or Staff comments.

Mr. Bates mentioned to the board that 'Christmas on the Chisholm Trail' was an overwhelming success, and the collaboration between the City and the Downtown Merchants was fantastic. Mr. Bates mentioned they are excited to keep the partnership going into next year.

9. Adjourn.

Chair Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.