



## City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Kinchion Room  
401 N. Alexander Street  
Belton, TX  
Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.

A meeting of the City of Belton Parks Board was held on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, in the Kinchion Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Daniel Bucher, Jason Wolfe, Diane Ring, and Chair, Josh Pearson. City Staff in attendance included Recreation and Events Director, Matt Bates; Assistant Public Works Director, Angellia Points Parks Superintendent, James Grant.

**1. Call to Order.**

Chair Josh Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**2. Public Comments**

None.

**3. Consider the minutes from the Jul 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Parks Board Meeting.**

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Bucher seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously, 4-0.

**4. Receive and end-of-season report from Belton Youth Baseball Secretary/ Treasurer, Marc Sheppard.**

Mr. Sheppard notified the board that BYBA had a spring registration total of 724 players, and that BYBA is now in good financial standing, with the association having a current balance of \$8,236.39, with an outstanding concession commission still to come. Mr. Sheppard discussed with the board that BYBA fiscal goal is to continue improvements to Heritage Park to enhance the experience players and parents have. Mr. Sheppard also told the board of the successful season Belton teams had competing in state with a 6U team taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place, a machine pitch taking 6<sup>th</sup>, and a BYBA 10U team who won state (BYBA also hosted this 10U Tournament). Mr. Sheppard told the board that there may be some board changes coming at the end of August. Mr. Bates expressed to the board his gratitude to Mr. Sheppard in keeping a prompt line of communication between the City and BYBA. Mr. Sheppard did request that City staff look into some drainage issues around the bases on certain fields, burnt out light bulbs, and maybe the addition of parking lot lights for players and parents leaving games late in the evening.

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

Mr. Parker informed the board that BYSA had a total of 290 players registered in the spring 2015 season. Mr. Parker also told the board that after the torrid stretch of rain we received in Texas during the month of May, BYSA played 62 games in 4 days in order to catch up with games that had been rained out. Mr. Parker also mentioned to the board that BYSA was able to host 3 tournaments (two district, and one state) in the Spring season, bringing a huge number of teams to the area, with all participants referencing their enjoyment during their time spent in Belton. Mr. Parker discussed with the board the difficulty at times with handicapped parking for the special needs division the association has. Mr. Bates mentioned that in previous seasons BYSA would schedule defined times or limited games whilst special needs games were being played, to ensure that parking was optimal. Mr. Parker requested the City look into a retaining wall of sorts to prevent flooding on certain fields from spreading and settling on other fields. Mr. Bates informed M. Parker that the City would look into this and try to figure out a solution.

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

Mr. Bates informed the board of the upcoming Summerfest and Movie in the Park scheduled for Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. M. Bates also handed out a copy of the Community Garden application packet and gave all a chance to review. Mr. Bates mentioned that the initial intention of the packet was to provide a set off simple rules to help the Garden 'grow', and the rules will evolve in time. Ms. Ring brought up the need for a dog park within the Community. Mr. Bates mentioned that he had received several phone calls about a dog park and as the City proceeds with the Belton Parks Strategic Master Plan update in late fall 2015-spring 2016, a dog park may emerge as an even higher priority than the past ranking (#8) prompting the ty to pursue a location and implementation plan.

**7. Adjourn.**

Chair Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:29pm.