



## City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Kinchion Room  
401 N. Alexander Street  
Belton, TX  
Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.

The City of Belton Parks Board held a meeting on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016, in the Kinchion Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Daniel Bucher, Diane Ring, T.R. McLaughlin, and Chair, Josh Pearson. City Staff in attendance included Director of Parks and Recreation, Matt Bates, and Parks Superintendent, James Grant, and Assistant City Manager, Gene Ellis.

### 1. **Call to Order.**

Chair Josh Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:41pm

### 2. **Public Comments**

Councilmember Jerri Gauntt signed up to speak for public comments. Councilmember Gauntt wanted to raise her concerns regarding Belton Youth Softball Association (BYSA). Gauntt was concerned by the recent change in league affiliation from Texas Teenage Association (TTA). Gauntt was also concerned about whether the association was truly benefitting from the recent tournaments being held at the complex. Chair Pearson thanked Gauntt for attending and informing the board of her concern. Chair Pearson asked staff to look into the matter and provide an update when possible.

### 3. **Consider the minutes from the February 1, 2016, Parks Board Meeting, and the February 8, 2016, Special Called Parks Board Meeting.**

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

### 4. **Receive and update from Brent Luck, Luck Design Team, regarding the February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Combined Belton Parks and Recreation Survey, and discuss park priorities that have emerged from survey results.**

Brent Luck, Luck Design Team, explained to the board how the process for identifying results would work. Mr. Luck took the board through several of the pertinent questions in the survey that help identify what the community feels is important to the current and future parks system. Mr. Luck told the board how on question 5. of the survey that 'Environment/ Parks and Recreation' was ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> most important service in the City to those who took the survey. Mr. Luck showed the board that on question 6. of the survey, that walking/ hiking trails, Multi-Purpose Indoor Recreation Center, and Natural Areas and Open Space were ranked as the top 3 facilities to be added to future parks in Belton. Mr. Luck explained how question 7 showed the facilities people ranked that were most important in their household. The top five results for question 7 were Walking/ Hiking Trails, Baseball fields, Multi-Purpose Indoor Recreation Center, Dog Park, Outdoor Swimming Pool. Mr. Luck showed that on question 13. of the survey, Social Media was ranked as the number 1 form of communication that survey takers would like the City to communicate with them. Mr. Luck moved on to question 15 which showed that survey takers preferred either Bond issue or User fees to pay for amenities desired. Mr. Luck then moved onto some of the demographic information received during the survey process, Mr. Luck showed the board that survey takers were 57.7% Female/ 42.3% Male, and age groups 40-49, and 30-39 were the top 2 age groups to take the survey. Mr. Luck explained that several questions asked for written responses, Mr. Luck said that other than minor cleanup on misspellings the intention was to leave responses as presented. Mr. Luck asked the board whether they had any specific questions from the survey and any queries they wish to have him run. Mr. Bates explained to the board that he was very happy with the results that were presented and most importantly the amount of participation the survey received. Mr. Luck closed

by telling the board that the next meeting in May would be where some of the 'Heavy lifting' would occur as it relates to listing priorities and establishing the framework for implementation. Mr. Bates informed that the board that the next Parks board meeting would be Monday, May, 2016 followed by the second Public Meeting on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

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

Mr. Bates informed the board of the scheduled Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Field Naming Ceremony for Clifton Peters Field- Formally 5<sup>th</sup> Field at Heritage Park Baseball Complex. Mr. Bates also informed the board of the upcoming April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 One Community One Day.

**6. Adjourn.**

Vice Chair Bucher adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.