



City of Belton – Parks Board Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Wright Room
401 N. Alexander Street
Belton, TX
Monday, August 15th, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.

The City of Belton Parks Board held a meeting on Monday, August 15th, 2016, in the Wright Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Daniel Bucher, T.R. McLaughlin, Diane Ring, Jason Wolfe and Chair Josh Pearson. City Staff in attendance included Director of Parks and Recreation, Matt Bates, Parks Superintendent, James Grant, Events Coordinator, Jeremy Allamon, and Assistant City Manager/ Police Chief, Gene Ellis.

1. **Call to Order.**

Chair Josh Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:32pm

2. **Public Comments**

Ms. Ortega told the board that she is actively planning fundraising events to raise money for a potential Dog Park in Belton. Ms. Ortega spoke about how she has reached a tentative agreement with Schoepf's BBQ to host a Tejano night on November 5th, 2016 to raise money in her son's memory. Ms. Ortega also went on to share that their family recently received incredible news that Robert Ortega, who was an organ donor, has helped save the lives of 43 individuals to date,

3. **Consider the minutes from the June 6th, 2016, Parks Board Meeting.**

Mr. Bucher made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Mr. McLaughlin seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously, 3-0.

4. **Review Implementation Plan associated with the identified priorities to be included in the City of Belton Parks Strategic Plan Update.**

Brent Luck, Luck Design Team, presented Parks board and staff with the proposed implementation plan for the Parks Master Plan. The implementation plan followed the order in which the priorities were presented. Hike and Bike Trail facilities were listed #1, Athletic Facilities #2, Dog Park #3, and Parkland Acquisition #4. Also included were the high priority facility items- Rec center and Swimming Pool. Mr. Luck explained that almost all implementation plans included a feasibility/design process, and a construction component. Mr. Luck highlighted to the board that the Chisholm Trail Corridor is something that the City has already committed too, which will take the current Nolan Creek Hike and Bike Trail up to Commerce St. Mr. Bates explained that this was an 80/20 match from TXDOT and that there will be a 2-year design process with construction beginning in 2018. Mr. Luck also referenced two other potential trail extensions which would connect neighborhoods in South Belton to the Nolan Creek Hike and Bike Trail. Mr. Luck went on to show the board implementation items that would see the City and BISD partner to enhance existing facilities that could be shared. Particular locations shown included Wilson-Kerzee field and SBMS Athletic fields. Mr. Luck went on to show the Dog Park implementation plan which was proposed to be designed in FY 2017, and built in FY 2018. While discussing Rec Center feasibility study, Mr. Luck told the board that he recommended that City staff meet with Harker Heights Parks & Rec staff who have recently had experience with building their own rec center, and the opening of a YMCA. Mr. Luck finished with showing the board his plan to see a dedicated Parks Maintenance Fund created, which would enable staff to replace and upgrade amenities each year.

5. **Review Park Maps that will be included in the City of Belton Parks Strategic Master Plan Update.**

Mr. Luck showed the board several maps that will be included in the Parks Strategic Master Plan Update. Mr. Luck highlighted where all City parks were located. Mr. Luck also showcased a map

that featured both developed and undeveloped park land. Included on the maps were industry standard park buffers. These highlight the area around a park in which it serves, and depends upon the acreage and the parks designation (Community, special purpose, neighborhood etc.).

6. Board and/or Staff comments.

Mr. Bates told the board that due to various planned vacations between Brent, board and staff the next Parks Board meeting would likely be held on Monday, August 15th, 2016.

7. Adjourn.

Chair Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.