



## **SPECIAL CALLED PARKS BOARD MEETING**

**Belton, Texas  
Monday, August 17, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.  
Wright Room**

**Facial Coverings will be required where social distancing cannot be maintained.**

1. Call to order.
2. Public Comments.
3. Consider minutes from the August 5, 2020, Parks Board Meeting.
4. Receive comments from the Park & Street Renaming Committee.
5. Discuss proposed Park and Street names for Confederate Park and Confederate Park Drive, and consider a recommendation to City Council.
6. Board and/or Staff comments.
7. Adjourn.

If interpreter services for the deaf or hearing impaired are required, please contact the City Clerk at (254) 933-5817 at least 48 hours in advance.

**Posted:**

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## City of Belton – Parks Board Special Called Meeting Meeting Minutes

Harris Community Center, Wright Room  
401 N. Alexander Street  
Belton, TX  
Wednesday, August 5, 2020– 5:30 p.m.

The City of Belton Parks Board held a Special Called meeting on Wednesday, August 5, 2020, in the Wright Room at the Harris Community Center. Attending the meeting were Parks Board members Josh Pearson, Daniel Bucher, Ted Smith, Jason Wolfe, and Diane Ring. City staff in attendance included Assistant City Manager Gene Ellis, Director of Parks Recreation Matt Bates, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director James Grant, Public Information Officer Paul Romer, and Recreation Coordinator Manuel Zapata. Parks Board Committee Appointees in attendance included Rucker Preston, Estella Murray, Marina Trevino, Ricardo DeLeon, and Charles Rodarte.

### 1. Call to Order.

Chair Pearson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

### 2. Public Comments.

None.

### 3. Consider Minutes from the July 20, 2020, Parks Board Meeting.

Ms. Ring made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously, 5-0.

### 4. Conduct a workshop on the following items:

#### a. Parks Board introduction of Park and Street renaming committee.

Director of Parks and Recreation Matt Bates thanked the Parks Board Members for their time. Mr. Bates reiterated the purpose of meeting is to propose names for the renaming of Confederate Park. Park Board Members Jason Wolfe, Diane Ring, Josh Pearson, Daniel Bucher, and Ted Smith introduce Committee Members listed below:

**Alton McCallum-** Not Present. Mr. Wolfe spoke on his behalf and explained that Mr. McCallum is a very distinguished and accomplished member of the community who is excited to be apart oof this process.

**Ricardo DeLeon-** Present, Mr. DeLeon addressed the board and explained that he was excited to be a part of positive change in the Belton Community and thanked the board for inviting him to be a part of the process.

**Sheila Gaines-** Not Present. Ms. Ring introduced Ms. Gaines and explained that she was a longtime educator in the community and a lifelong Belton resident who has children, and grandchildren, who live in the community, and is also a Belton business owner.

**Marina Trevino-** Present. Ms. Ring explained that she came to know Ms. Trevino through her excellent work with Belton Youth Softball Association and felt as though she has a great pulse for the community and would be excellent addition to the committee. Ms. Trevino declined to speak but thanked Ms. Ring for kind words and introduction.

**Kayla Potts-** Not Present. Mr. Pearson explained how Kayla, and her husband Luke, were the first to formally submit a name change request to the City in June, 2020. Mr. Pearson said he's spoken with Ms. Potts on several occasions and that she has provided him a lot of feedback and recommendations as the process

begins to move forward. Mr. Pearson thanked Kayla & Luke for being great members of our community and involvement in this process.

**Ora Butler-** Not Present. Mr. Pearson mentioned that Ms. Butler was a former student of the West Belton Harris High School and a very influential and committed member of the community.

**Rucker Preston-** Present. Mr. Preston thanked the Board bringing this issue forward. Mr. Preston said he felt very ashamed to have lived in this community for so long and to not bring up the name of the park sooner. Mr. Preston ended by thanking the board for their service and making the process easier by simply selecting names only, and not having to decide whether it should be renamed or not.

**Estella Murray-** Present. Ms. Murray spoke to the board and explained that she has lived most her life in Belton- Daughter of Bertha & Theo McGee. Ms. Murray explained how she has organized the annual 'Back to School with God' event held the first Saturday in August, which unfortunately had to be canceled due to COVID-19. Ms. Murray ended by saying that she is excited by the changes happening in the City of Belton.

**Charles Rodarte- Present.** Mr. Rodarte stated he was happy to hear about the name change and what it would do for our City. Mr. Rodarte mentioned that though he doesn't necessarily agree with those who wished for name not to be changed, he felt as though name considerations should be made to include them to find a compromising and fair name for all.

**Reesa Harrison-** Not Present. Mr. Smith introduced Ms. Harrison and her husband and stated that they were great members of the community and were excited to be involved in the renaming process.

Mr. Bates introduces Council recommended committee members-

**Marvin Bell and Carolyn Bell-** Present. Mr. Bell (Ret. Lt. Col. In US Army) stated that scripture says "it is impossible for two men to walk with one another unless they agree" and 'a house that is divided will not stand'. Mr. Bell mentioned that he and his wife have lived in Belton for 19 years and have been involved in the community for a long time. Mr. Bell said that though they are 'technically not city residents', they do consider themselves apart of the community. Mr. Bell said that the renaming is about inclusion and transparency and that for too long we have been separate and now it's time to come together and recognize the importance of a well-balanced community.

Future Leaders Committee including:

**Jacob Jimenez-** Not present. Mr. Bates told the board that Mr. Jimenez was the 2019 BHS Valedictorian and current Harvard Undergrad. Mr. Bates mentioned that Mr. Jimenez is engaged and excited to be a part of this process.

**Madden Baggerly-** Present. Ms. Baggerly spoke to the board and said she was excited to be a part of this process. Ms. Baggerly also mentioned that she would like the board to consider geographical names in the top 5 so that City Council has diverse name options.

**Garrett Smith-** Not present. Mr. Bates introduced Mr. Smith who is current UMHB Student Body President, former YAC Chair, and longtime BHS student body president.

**Sara Fox-**Present. Ms. Fox thanked the board for being allowed to be a part of the committee. Ms. Fox said she has lived in the community for 4 years and has enjoyed taking an active leadership role with UMHB. Ms. Fox said that she took pride in listening and serving her fellow classmates. Finally, Ms. Fox said that she is excited to continue to make Belton an inclusive and welcoming community.

#### **b. Review and discuss proposed Park and Street Names.**

Park Board deliberated over the proposed names that were submitted for Confederate Park and narrowed the list of options down to nine names from a possible 35. The nine Names selected are shown below:

- Citizen's
- Community
- Fellowship

- Freedom
- Liberty
- United
- Unity
- US Veterans Memorial
- Veterans

**c. Schedule for upcoming Parks Board meetings.**

Mr. Bates and the Park Board arranged the future meeting Parks board meeting of August 17, 2020.

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

None.

**6. Adjourn.**

Chair Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:41PM.

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Josh Pearson, Chair

Attest:

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Matt Bates, Director of Parks and Recreation



# City of Belton

~ Parks & Recreation ~

## Proposed Names from Parks Board & Committee Members

Name	Rank	Comments
<b>Citizen's</b>		
<b>Community</b>		
<b>Fellowship</b>		
<b>Freedom</b>		<i>Current Street Name</i>
<b>Liberty</b>		<i>Current Street Name</i>
<b>United</b>		
<b>Unity</b>		
<b>US Veterans memorial</b>		
<b>Veterans</b>		



# City of Belton

~ Parks & Recreation ~

Names submitted to staff and [ParksandRec@beltontexas.gov](mailto:ParksandRec@beltontexas.gov) & removed from consideration at 8-5-2020 Parks Board Meeting.

Agape		Shady Side
Belton		Tranquility
Central		Victory
Citizens		Wildflower
Clearwater		Memorial
Creekside		Meadow
Crimson		Blossom
Emancipation		College
Fairgrounds		Emergency Heroes
Friendship		Emergency Responders
Hope		Independence
Live Oak		Little River Plaza
Nolan		Old Settlers
Patriot		Peaceful Oaks
Peace		Stars and Stripes
Pecan		Tonkawa Falls
Peoples		
Primrose		
Redemption		
Reunion		
Riverside		

	Citizens	Community	Fellowship	Freedom	Liberty	United	Unity	US Veterens Memorial	Veterens
Ted Smith	7	6	4	5	3	8	9	1	2
Diane Ring	5	2	7	4	6	8	1	9	3
Daniel Bucher	6	4	2	3	5	7	1	9	8
Josh Pearson	5	6	4	1	3	7	8	9	2
Jason Wolfe									

Average Ranking	5.75	4.50	4.25	3.25	4.25	7.50	4.75	7.00	3.75
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	Citizens	Community	Fellowship	Freedom	Liberty	United	Unity	US Veterens Memorial	Veterens
Rucker Preston	6	2	5	3	4	7	1	8	9
Charles Rhodarte	3	5	4	7	6	2	1	9	8
Jacob Jiminez	1	4	5	2	3	6	7	8	9
Reesa Harrison	7	6	4	5	3	8	9	1	2
Estella Murray	9	5	4	6	3	2	1	8	7
Sara Fox	5	4	7	1	3	6	2	9	8
Madden Baggerly	2	9	3	4	5	8	7	6	1
Marvin & Carrolyn Bell	6	5	4	3	1	7	2	9	8
Kayla Potts									
Ora Butler									
Sheila Gaines	5	3	8	9	4	7	6	1	2
Marina Trevino	4	2	9	8	7	6	3	5	1
Alton McCallum									
Ricardo DeLeon									
<b>Average Ranking</b>	<b>4.80</b>	<b>4.50</b>	<b>5.30</b>	<b>4.80</b>	<b>3.90</b>	<b>5.90</b>	<b>3.90</b>	<b>6.40</b>	<b>5.50</b>



OVERALL BOAD & COMMITTEE	Citizens	Community	Fellowship	Freedom	Liberty	United	Unity	US Veterens Memorial	Veterens
Ted Smith	7	6	4	5	3	8	9	1	2
Diane Ring	5	2	7	4	6	8	1	9	3
Daniel Bucher	6	4	2	3	5	7	1	9	8
Josh Pearson	5	6	4	1	3	7	8	9	2
Rucker Preston	6	2	5	3	4	7	1	8	9
Charles Rhodarte	3	5	4	7	6	2	1	9	8
Jacob Jiminez	1	4	5	2	3	6	7	8	9
Reesa Harrison	7	6	4	5	3	8	9	1	2
Estella Murray	9	5	4	6	3	2	1	8	7
Sara Fox	5	4	7	1	3	6	2	9	8
Madden Baggerly	2	9	3	4	5	8	7	6	1
Marvin & Carrolyn Bell	6	5	4	3	1	7	2	9	8
Sheila Gaines	5	3	8	9	4	7	6	1	2
Marina Trevino	4	2	9	8	7	6	3	5	1
Average Ranking	5.07	4.50	5.00	4.36	4.00	6.36	4.14	6.57	5.00

6	4	T-5	3	1	7	2	8	T-5
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	Citizens	Community	Fellowship	Freedom	Liberty	United	Unity	US Veterans Memorial	Veterans
Parks 1	2	6	5	4	3	8	1	9	7
Parks 2	4	7	1	3	5	8	2	9	6
Parks 3	3	1	8	2	9	4	6	8	7
Parks 4	5	3	4	8	9	2	7	6	1
Parks 5	5	7	8	4	1	6	9	2	3
Parks 6	2	3	5	4	6	7	8	9	1
Parks 7	3	2	1	6	5	4	7	8	9
Parks 8	5	2	3	4	6	8	9	7	1
Parks 9	5	6	7	3	2	8	9	4	1
Parks 10	6	5	7	4	3	8	9	2	1
Parks 11	4	1	5	7	8	6	9	2	3
Parks 12	2	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Parks 13	1	5	8	3	9	7	2	4	6
Parks 14	8	3	9	4	6	1	5	7	2
<b>Average Ranking</b>	<b>3.93</b>	<b>3.71</b>	<b>5.29</b>	<b>4.29</b>	<b>5.50</b>	<b>5.93</b>	<b>6.43</b>	<b>6.07</b>	<b>4.07</b>

	Citizens	Community	Fellowship	Freedom	Liberty	United	Unity	US Veterens Memorial	Veterens
Lee Shannon	7	8	6	3	5	4	9	2	1
Jeff Achee	5	1	9	3	2	8	4	6	7
Luk Potts	6	4	1	7	5	8	9	3	2
Bob Holloway	4	3	5	2	6	8	7	9	1

Average Ranking	5.50	4.00	5.25	3.75	4.50	7.00	7.25	5.00	2.75
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## Chair Pearson Facebook Poll

Rank	Park Name:	
1	Freedom	56
2	Liberty	51
3	Veterans	36
4	Unity	28
5	Fellowship	27
	Veterans Memorial	18
	Community	13
	United	5
	Citizens	5

**Matthew Bates**

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**From:** Neil Haney <nhaney418@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 9:54 AM  
**To:** ParksAndRec  
**Subject:** Naming of Confederate Park - Attn: Mr. John Holmes

Dear Mr. Holmes and Committee:

It is my understanding that you will meet today to consider renaming the Confederate Park. I will not be able to attend the meeting but wanted to express my opinion.

It is my preference to name the park, "Veteran's Park." This will honor all veterans who served in the military at any level whether they are dead or alive.

This seems the most appropriate name for the park.

Thank you very much for the ability to express my opinion. My God bless you in your efforts.

Neil Haney

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K. Neil Haney

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## Matthew Bates

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**From:** avisabrown@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 12:34 PM  
**To:** Matthew Bates  
**Subject:** Fwd: Updated Name List 8-6-2020  
**Attachments:** names of parks.jpg

Hello Mr. Bates, my name is Avis Brown, Jr. and I'm a 1962 graduate of T. B. Harris High School. If the decision has not been made, I would like for you to consider naming the park, Unity Evans and **Bates** Park or whom ever your committee decide on.

M.W. Evans was a principal at Harris and he was loved and respected by everyone in Belton, Texas.

Thank you

Avis Brown, Jr.

P.S. I lived in DeSoto, Texas with my wife Mable **Blackmon** Brown, who is also a 1961 graduate of T. B. Harris.

-----Original Message-----

From: estella murray <elmr56@gmail.com>  
To: ajr3826 <ajr3826@aol.com>; alberj2525 <alberj2525@yahoo.com>; anita frank <a.frank15@yahoo.com>; ANNETTE BEENE EVANS <ANN228@comcast.net>; anthony rose <boanthny@aol.com>; avis brown <avisabrown@aol.com>; barbara duckens <barbd8606@yahoo.com>; billy payne <billycpayne@gmail.com>; BRENDA WHITE <letsdecorate\_bm@yahoo.com>; BRYAN SWEENEY <Bsnfx@hotmail.com>; charlie berry <thebrownberry@yahoo.com>; christian powell <lilminister@hotmail.com>; david gene greene <coolmule41@yahoo.com>; della jean knight stevenson <dellasteverson73@yahoo.com>; dorothy payne <payned23197@att.net>; Dr. George Harrison <gharrison3901@aol.com>; elisha moore bundy <ebundy83@hotmail.com>; f.edward brown <fedwardbrown@gmail.com>; febrown <febrown@justice.com>; greatonechappell <greatonechappell@hotmail.com>; Jackie Knight Prather <jprather21@yahoo.com>; jessie parker <jessiepark1224@gmail.com>; JOAN DANIELS <joanmdaniels@live.com>; johnny weddington <johnny46@russellhrconsultants.com>; juanita billingsley <juanitabillingsley@gmail.com>; LEE HELEN ROBINSON MARTIN <leehelenmartin@yahoo.com>; LELA Butler <lalabutler63@gmail.com>; LELA CAVIL <QUEENCAVIL@yahoo.com>; LEVETTA HILL <LEVETTAHILL@yahoo.com>; mable brown <mableb@hot.rr.com>; MARION DANIELS <danielsmarion@icloud.com>; MARION WILSON <wlsn\_ms@yahoo.com>; Mbronson20 <Mbronson20@yahoo.com>; nellie diane turner lockley <dee@thomastx.com>; nettie beene <nettiebeene2@msn.com>; Nikki parker <Nikiparker1292@yahoo.com>; ORA JEAN BUTLER <btlor@aol.com>; patrice parker gayle <sweetnessintexas@hotmail.com>; patrick russell <pruss23@yahoo.com>; PEARLINE PARKER ROUNDTREE <proundtree45@gmail.com>; pfulcher <pfulcher@utmb.edu>; PRINCE HARRISON <prince@optimumfitness.com>; priscilla Mc Bride Beene <pjmtx48@gmail.com>; reesa66 <reesa66@yahoo.com>; Rena Gunter <renagunter@sbcglobal.net>; retaylor333 <retaylor333@yahoo.com>; roland mitchell <roland\_mitchell213@att.net>; ROSCOE HARRISON <roscoeharrison70@yahoo.com>; roy thomas <daddyrt@aol.com>; ruth taylor godine <rgodine0502@att.net>; sarahunt81 <sarahunt81@yahoo.com>; Selnelda Cox <mscocoachey@live.com>; STEVIE SHAW <RAWSHAW@aol.com>; Supt. Limmie Collins <limmiesupt@yahoo.com>; T.C. COLLINS <hhcollins52@aol.com>; TISHA JACKSON <jackson000t@yahoo.com>; VIOLA & TONNY LEE <viola.lee@sbcglobal.net>; welcook <welcook@cox.net>; willena funderburke <willenafunderburke2@gmail.com>; yolondia bell golden <goldenylondia@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thu, Aug 6, 2020 3:18 pm  
Subject: Re: Updated Name List 8-6-2020

please use this page only. the list was narrowed to this. we want to get down to five names. sorry for the confusion

On Thu, Aug 6, 2020 at 1:50 PM estella murray <elmr56@gmail.com> wrote: