

CITY OF ROCKPORT

MINUTES

PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m., Monday, January 27, 2014

Bay Education Center

121 Seabreeze Drive, Rockport, Texas

On the 27th day of January, 2014, the City of Rockport Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Board met at 6:00 p.m. at the Bay Education Center, 121 Seabreeze Drive, Rockport, Texas, and notice of meeting, specifying time, place, date and subject, was posted in accordance with the Texas Government Code, § 551.041.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ty Brisgill
Bob Shoemaker
Kathryn Morrow
Ellen Kennard

OTHERS PRESENT:

J.D. Villa, City Councilman, Liaison to Park Board
Tom Staley, Director of Parks & Leisure Services

1. Call meeting to order.

The meeting of the City of Rockport Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Board was called to order by the Chair, Ty Brisgill, at 6:00 p.m., who noted the presence of a quorum of members.

2. Citizens to be heard.

At this time, comments will be taken from the audience on any subject matter that is not on the agenda. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the Board may not discuss or take action on any item that has not been posted on the agenda.

There were no citizens present wishing to speak.

3. Deliberate and act on the November 18, 2013, regular meeting minutes.

Upon receiving confirmation that members present had reviewed the November 18, 2013, regular meeting minutes, the Chair called for a motion.

MOTION: Board Member Kennard introduced a motion to approve the November 18, 2013, meeting minutes as written. Board Member Shoemaker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Hear and deliberate the results of the Volkssport Walk and Swim Traditional Events December 7, 2013, in conjunction with Tropical Christmas.

Tom Staley said there were 25 walkers and 7 swimmers on December 7th, which was low, but not bad considering the cold weather. He recommended that we try it again this year, and that we can handle it without AVA on-site assistance, though we will need more volunteer help.

5. Hear and deliberate on status of the Volkssport Year Round Swim and Walk.

Tom Staley said that all is ready for swimmers and walkers to enjoy our year-round swim and walk. He said that the walk routes are the same as for Tropical Christmas, with a 10K and 5K option, with the walks beginning and ending at the Aquatic Park instead of at the Tule Hike & Bike Trailhead. He added that the first group of walkers is expected here in mid-February.

6. Hear and deliberate progress on preparations for the 26th Annual Whooping Crane Strut scheduled for March 8, 2014.

Tom Staley reminded board members that their help is needed once again for this year's Whooping Crane Strut. He said that he has revised the course for both walkers and runners to improve the accuracy of the distances, and added that the 8K run will be a 10K this year. The mulch trail will not be used due to some participants not liking the soft surface. Chairman Brisgill added that having more volunteer assistance will be helpful. Councilman Villa said that members of the Aransas Leadership Class need volunteer hours, and that he will contact the class advisor to make her aware of the need for volunteers at this event.

7. Hear and deliberate submission of application to the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for a Memorial Park Hike & Bike Trail Restoration and Enhancement Project.

Tom Staley distributed copies of a completed Texas Parks & Wildlife Department Recreation Trails Grant Application, which requires approval by the City Council on January 28th. The proposed project is to apply a heavy coat of cold tar sealer to the 1.6 mile Memorial Park Hike & Bike Trail. Funds are also requested for construction of 30 trailside emergency "911" markers, the purchase and installation of a chilled water fountain at the lakeside restroom, and the purchase of two trailside benches. The total project cost is \$72,000, with \$50,400 in grant funds and \$21,600 in local funding and in-kind labor support. Projects recommended for funding will be announced in June, with project execution beginning in October.

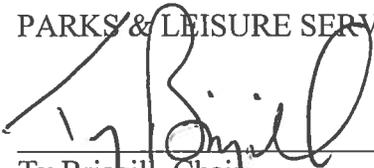
8. Hear report on status to train park maintenance staff to become Master Naturalists.

Tom Staley reported that two park maintenance staff members, Richard Martinez and Laura Clark, will start the Master Naturalist Training Program this coming weekend. The program consists of classroom and field study of natural habitats each weekend until May. After completing the program, a Master Naturalist is required to complete a number of annual volunteer hours.

9. Adjournment

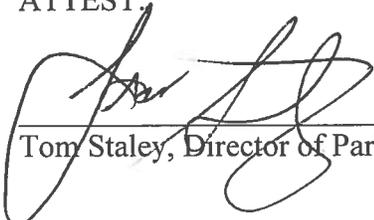
Upon motion duly made and seconded, the regular meeting was adjourned.

PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD



Ty Briggill, Chair

ATTEST:



Tom Staley, Director of Parks & Leisure Services