CITY OF ROCKPORT

MINUTES

PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 p.m., Monday, March 24, 2014
Bay Education Center
121 Seabreeze Drive, Rockport, Texas

On the 24th day of March, 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
Cassandra Perkins
Leo Villa

OTHERS PRESENT:
J.D. Villa, City Council Member, 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 February 24, 2014, regular meeting minutes.

Upon receiving confirmation that members present had reviewed the February 24, 2014, regular meeting minutes, the Chair called for a motion.

MOTION: Board Member Shoemaker introduced a motion to approve the February 24, 2014, meeting minutes as written. Board Member Villa seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Tom Staley said there were several walkers over Spring Break Week, but the weather was not very conducive. Board Member Morrow asked if board members will be receiving newsletters and other information from American Volkssport Association (AVA) Regional Office. Tom said he will check. She also said that she has been asked how people can join the local Rockport Club, instead of having to join at the national level. Tom replied that the priority to this point was to get our club established, to develop, establish and receive approval of the Year-Round Walk Routes for publication in the 2014 AVA Walk Tour Book, to understand and comply with AVA administrative requirements, and to conduct the required Traditional AVA Walk, which we did on December 7, 2013. Tom added that the first quarterly report will be due next month, so that will be another first time obligation. We can now start to look at other items of interest, including how to incorporate our local citizens into the Rockport Club. Tom said there are several other clubs in Texas that are set up by local governments, and he will see how they operate and whether they allow local memberships.

5. Hear and deliberate on report of the 26th Annual Whooping Crane Strut held March 8, 2014.

Tom Staley said that of 192 registered walkers and runners, 177 participated in the 26th Annual Whooping Crane Strut. He thanked those board members who assisted with the event in a variety of ways. They helped ensure participants stayed on course, stayed safe, and encouraged them to the finish line. Board Member Morrow asked if cups of water should be left on the table for participants to pick up as they pass by or should the cups be handed to them. She said that one runner was angry because of having to stop and collect the cup. Tom said that either way is all right and having to pick up a cup does slow a runner slightly. They have to slow down to take the cup anyway. Tom said there were fewer late registrants (27) on race morning again this year. In past years there were up to 60 race morning registrants. The reason is unknown, except for weather uncertainty. Tom added that nearly half of those participating were from outside our local area. He said that a family of five came from Hunt, Texas, and said they intend to return next year with more friends and family. They commented that this is a fun family event. Tom said that was the first time he heard that specific comment, and that the event has been approached primarily as a competition. He added that this is something to keep in mind for future planning. He then distributed a post-event survey ready for sending to event participants via e-mail. Board members discussed whether to change the event date to a weekend that does not conflict with the Fulton Oysterfest, since in the last two years the Whooping Crane attendance has dropped to under 200. Until two years ago, Oysterfest was a week later, but now the two events are on the first weekend of Spring Break. Board members said that having the two events coincide should be looked at as more of a positive attractor for the run with more visitors in town, and that the date should continue on the Saturday at the beginning of Spring Break. Tom commented that contracting a band to perform, though inexpensive, did not really add to the event, and that playing recorded music is sufficient. There is not a captive audience for a sufficient period of time, and one-third or more of the participants do not wait for the awards presentation. More people leaving early may be due to the Oysterfest Parade beginning at 11:00 a.m.

6. Hear and deliberate on presentation of potential capital projects.

Tom Staley distributed a list of park capital projects (attachment 1) that may be included within a broader funding initiative by the city. Board members reviewed and discussed the items, then placed them in priority order (attachment 2) in case there are insufficient funds to cover all items. The "change mulch trail to re-claimed asphalt" item was deleted, since board members prefer to retain a mulch surface.

7. Adjournment

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

PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Ty Brisgill, Chair

ATTEST:

Tom Staley, Director of Parks & Leisure Services