

# CITY OF ROCKPORT

## MINUTES

### PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING

6:00 p.m., Monday, October 24, 2016  
Bay Education Center  
121 Seabreeze Drive, Rockport, Texas

On the 24th day of October, 2016, 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  
Kate Catlow  
Debra Corpora  
Ray Garza  
Cassandra Perkins  
Jeanette Larson

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

J. D. Villa, City Council Liaison  
Richard Martinez, Director of Parks & Leisure Services  
Jackie Hattenbach, Administrative Recreation & Program Assistant  
Nelida Spurrell  
Jessica Jackson  
Stephanie Olivarez  
Jennifer Olivarez  
Beatrice Olivarez  
Frances Olivarez  
Josh Luck

#### **1. Call meeting to order.**

The meeting of the City of Rockport Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Board was brought to order by the Chair, Ty Brisgill, at 6:00 p.m., on October 24, 2016, 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 to be heard.

**3. Deliberate and act to approve the September 26, 2016, regular meeting minutes.**

Board Member Garza moved to approve the September 26, 2016, regular meeting minutes as written. Board Member Corpora seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**4. Deliberate and discuss a request from Jessica Jackson concerning ADA- accessible playground equipment in local park areas.**

Jessica Jackson appeared before the board, speaking on behalf of her 5-year-old son, Joshua, who is handicapped and wheelchair-bound. She stated she would like some special playground equipment in area parks like an adaptive swing or something that sways that would benefit not only her son but other special needs children as well. She explained that the park by the Fulton Harbor had one but it was removed for repairs. She expressed that parks are vital for social skills and to build relationships, and that she wanted her son to participate in parks activities and be able to play with other children. She further stated that there is equipment located in Aransas Pass and some in Corpus Christi. Board Member Catlow asked Ms. Jackson in which park she preferred this equipment be placed. Ms. Jackson responded she preferred it not being in Memorial Park. Council Member Villa asked Parks Director Martinez if there are any types of special equipment presently in any of the City parks, upon which Mr. Martinez replied there is a toddler unit in Memorial Park that has an ADA ramp up to the play unit. Board Member Corpora asked Mr. Martinez if there are any grants for adaptive equipment, to which he replied he would investigate grants. Board Member Larson requested that Mr. Martinez have more information by the next meeting in November. Mr. Martinez stated that any new equipment would have to be a possible budget item for the city's next fiscal year and that he would look for the types of equipment that Ms. Jackson was requesting. City Council Member Villa asked that we contact the school to get a count of how many special needs students are within the Aransas County Independent School District. Mr. Martinez then presented a photo of the newest type of swing installed at Memorial Park called an Expression Swing, a two-swing unit whereby parent and child face each other while swinging on their own individual swings.

**5. Receive update on preparations for the December 3, 2016, Rockport Tropical Christmas Festival.**

Board Member Brisgill asked Jackie Hattenbach about festival preparations, upon which she presented board members with a chart for volunteers to sign up for various tasks.

--**Festival Grounds Set-up.** For Friday, December 2, Charles Casas has signed up to help but he will need at least two other helpers.

--**Christmas Tree Decorating Contest.** Board Member Villa suggested that the public be allowed to vote for the winners this year and that ballots be printed on colored paper. Board Member Perkins agreed to hold a ballot box for people to vote. Winners will be announced at the stage at 1 pm.

--**Information Booth.** Four two-hour time slots need at least two people per shift. Volunteers will hand out visitor information, schedules of events, inform attendees to vote on the Christmas

Tree Decorating Contest, and have first-aid supplies on hand. Board Member Corpora agreed to work the 1-3 pm time slot.

--**Pirate Costume Contest/“Run for Yar Treasure.”** Council Member Villa suggested that the treasure hunt be a 1 pm and the costume contest be at 2 pm. Board Member Catlow agree to be the organizer for these events. There is one volunteer already signed up; however, several volunteers are needed. Winners will be presented on-stage and given their prizes.

--**Pet Costume Contest.** Board members were informed that the Aransas County Humane Society manages this event and they furnish their own volunteers. Winners will be announced at the stage at 4 pm. Board Member Brisgill suggested allowing Captain Rex to announce the winners of the contest from his mobile pirate ship.

--**Tropical Santa.** Jackie Hattenbach stated Santa needs at least two volunteers to help him deliver goodie bags. Previously, he has visited the Driscoll Children’s Hospital on the Friday before the festival. Ms. Hattenbach suggested that Santa visit residents in local nursing homes. Discussion was held about where Santa would be located in the parade. Last year he was on the fire engine at the end of the parade and was not seen by most people. Council Member Villa asked if Santa could ride on the mobile pirate ship that is provided by Captain Rex. Ms. Hattenbach stated she will contact Capt. Rex about Santa riding the mobile pirate ship along with him in the parade.

--**Parade.** Mr. Martinez stated that the police department and public works handle traffic and blocking roads for the parade. Board Member Ty Brisgill stated he handles lining up people at the corner of S. Ann at Market St. on a first-come basis and that at least three volunteers are needed, two at the corner of S. Ann and North St. to help entrants line up and one to help in front of City Hall.

**6. Receive report and proposal from Caliche, Ltd. regarding removal of asbestos from structures at 1501-1503 Broadway.**

The report from Caliche, Ltd. showed that all structures are termite-infested, have building code issues, and tested positive for asbestos contamination at structures one and two. Structure three has no asbestos. Demolition cannot be performed until asbestos contamination is removed. Rick Martinez advised he will call Caliche, Ltd. for a spec sheet and estimated cost of removal, follow state procedures for removal, project management during removal, and a final report. Mr. Martinez advised that there is a small window of time to complete the demolition work, which needs to be done by the end of the year. He further stated that nesting time begins in February. Board Member Larson asked if structure three could be removed first and others at a later date due to expected nesting time. Mr. Martinez stated it would be more cost-effective to perform the demolition at the same time.

**7. Deliberate possible agenda items for November 21, 2016, meeting.**

Agenda items suggested by board members for the November 21, 2016, meeting are the use of web-cams to observe nesting birds, update the Tropical Christmas Festival volunteer list, discussion about what to put onto the Bent Oaks property located at 1501-1503 Broadway referencing suggestions from the August 22, 2016, minutes, and update on ADA playground

equipment pricing. Also, an update on the asbestos abatement process for properties at 1501-1503 Broadway.

**8. Adjournment**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

PARKS & LEISURE SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

  
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Kate Catlow, Vice Chairman

Parks and Leisure Services  
Meeting Attendance Record  
Parks Advisory Board Members

Date: October / 24 / 2016

Board Members Attending this date:

- 1) Kate Carlson
- 2) Janeth Larson
- 3) Debra Corpora
- 4) R. A. D.
- 5) Bill
- 6) Christina W. Fortuna
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_

Parks and Leisure Services  
Parks Board Meeting Attendance Chart

Visitors Attending

Date: October / 24 / 2016

(PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME)

- 1) Nelida Spurrell
- 2) Jessica Jackson
- 3) Stephanie Alvarez
- 4) Jennifer Alvarez
- 5) Beatrice Stewart
- 6) Francis Alvarez
- 7) Joshua
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_