

Minutes
Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
March 6, 2018

On this 6th day of March, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board convened in a Regular Meeting, and the same being opened to the public at their regular meeting place; thereof, at City Hall, 303 S. Teel Drive, Devine, Texas. Notice of said meeting having been prescribed in Chapter 551, Government Code, and Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated, and the following members thereof, being present, namely:

Albert Garza
Mary Allison
Jennifer Schott
Debbie Randall

Absent being Board Member Linda Gunn; thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel present: Dora V. Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator/City Secretary; Denise Duffy, City Accountant; Mary Badillo, City Financial Advisor; and Tom Cate, City Attorney; and Ofilia Pedroza, UB Clerk.

Others present: Marly Davis, Devine News; Mayor Herring; and Councilman Cory Thompson, District #5; of Devine, Texas.

Chairman Jennifer Schott called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board to order.

The first order of business was to discuss and consider approval of minutes for Meeting on January 29, 2018.

The Board reviewed the minutes.

Motion by Board Member Allison, seconded by Board Member Randall to approve the minutes for Meeting on January 29, 2018.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

The second order of business was to discuss Neighborhood Parks.

Mr. Cory Thompson, Councilman District #5, addressed the Board. He informed them that he started looking for land in Councilman David Valdez' district but it was hard to find available land in his district; however, he did find land in District #3, Councilman David Espinosa's district. He showed the board members a map to view the piece of land. He told the Board that according to tax records, the City already owns the piece of land that he's looking at, and Linda Center owns a small slice of it.

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The Board held discussion on this and thought it would be nice to contact Linda Center to see if might give us permission to use the land. Board Member Garza offered to talk to Ms. Center, and Councilman Thompson said he will continue to look.

Board Member Allison discussed wanting to put a sand volleyball court at the Briscoe Park. Mayor Herring suggested putting it by the pavilion. Discussion was held on not needing to do a very big one versus going with an official size volleyball court, like Castroville has. The issue of the sand was also discussed. Board Member Randall said she will look into the sand, and Board Member Garza also said he could talk to County Commissioner Jerry Beck, Precinct #4 about sand that he gets donated from the State, and said he would get back to the Board by the next meeting.

The third order of business was to discuss and consider the following:

- a. For Public Works to Paint the Restroom.
- b. To contract with someone to Paint the Restroom.
- c. To pick a color for the Restroom to be painted.

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez told the Board that our Public Works guys are ready to go. They just pretty much want the Board's blessing so they can keep going. Chairman Schott said that they have the Board's blessing for Public Works to paint the restroom. The Board discussed staying with the same color that we have now in the restroom as long as they paint the wood also. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez said that everything needs to be painted, and there are some things that need to be repaired also. The consensus of the Board was to "go for it." This takes care of a., b., and c.

Motion by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Allison to have the Public Works city workers paint the restroom including the trimming in the same color that it currently has.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

- d. For Public Works to replace Rotten Boards and Paint Pavilion.

Discussion was held on power washinging everything real good and then treating the wood. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez told the Board that Public Works wanted to know if they wanted the pavilion just stained or painted. Cory Thompson, Councilman District #5, suggested that some of the boards need to be replaced and then they need to be treated and stained. The Board inquired if this would be done before June. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez will get with Public Works and find out because right now they are working on some other things, but said they plan to get started soon.

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Motion by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Garza to have the Public Works city workers replace the rotten boards and re-stain the pavilion.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

- e. For Public Works to take care of the Grass Burrs at the Parks
- f. To contract with someone to take care of the Grass Burrs at the Parks

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez told the Board that she's gotten two proposals; one was for \$15,000 and the other was for \$3,500. However, she said that our Public Works Department has found a chemical that will also work. City Accountant Denise Duffy explained that Superintendent of Public Works Rob Flores has investigated into a chemical called Prowl-H20 which will get rid of the grass burrs. It will be applied three times a year. She said the City can purchase it and we can spray it. The initial purchase is \$466.

Board Member Garza then discussed a cheaper way that he knows of, and we don't have to spend all that money. He said that all we have to do is go to Morales Feed Store and buy oats and spread it out all over the field, right after the grass has been cut, and you'll get rid of all the stickers. He said it's real easy. He told the Board that this is winter oats and regular oats mixed together. He explained that we would need to spray it; one week later, you go back and cut it again and rake it; and spray the oats all over again.

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez said our guys had gone to Harrison's and spoken to Danny and he explained that this chemical is just sprayed three times a year and that's all you have to do. Board Member Garza inquired if this chemical wouldn't kill any trees. He explained that most chemicals can kill surrounding trees and shrubbery if sprayed on a windy day.

Discussion was held on having a license to spray chemicals. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez explained that this chemical does not require a license to spray it. The Board discussed to start spraying right now. According to Board Member Garza, we could start with the chemical but suggested to also do the oats; he said it stays green in the summer and it stays green in the winter; year-round. Board Member Allison suggested trying the chemical now and then trying the oats. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez said she will look into the trees. They said this takes care of e. and f.

Motion by Board Member Garza, seconded by Board Member Allison for Public Works to take care of the Grass Burrs at the Parks and go with the Prowl H20, and then try the oats later.

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Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

g. To replace broken Picnic Tables at the Park

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez passed out some handouts to the Board of metal picnic tables that Public Works has looked into. The tables we currently have are made of cement and, she said, these are made of heavy metal and will need to be bolted down. She suggested that we definitely need to replace the table with the broken rebar at the Briscoe Park.

The Board liked the round picnic tables and held discussion on the tables at both parks since the John Curcio Park currently does not have any tables at all. They talked about replacing what we need at the Briscoe Park and putting some in at the John Curcio Park, and eventually we can get them all done. According to Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez, we just need to move forward with this so we can take it before Council so we can get going on this.

Chairman Jennifer Schott mentioned a wooden bench around one of the oak trees and asked if it could be power washed and stained also whenever the city workers work on power washing and staining the pavilion. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez said, yes, we would look into that.

Board members held more discussion on the metal tables and going with the ones that are ADA compliant. They talked about the table sizes and color.

Motion by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Allison to put one (1) green 8' rectangular table and one (1) red round table at the John Curcio Park, and put one (1) green 8' rectangular table at the Briscoe Park to replace the broken table.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

h. Cost or Wooden Fiber (Mulch) to be replaced at the Parks

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez said she had City Accountant Denise Duffy look into this. Ms. Duffy reported that at the John Curcio Park, if we were to put fiber (mulch) underneath everything that is supposed to have fiber, we are looking at \$10,087. If we only put fiber underneath the play equipment and replenish what was put there several years ago, we are only looking at \$1,443.75. Ms. Duffy explained that this is an engineer wood fiber mulch. According to Interim

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City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez, we can't just put any kind of mulch there; it has to be the engineer wood fiber mulch.

Chairman Schott inquired if the mulch is contained with a border. She was told, yes. City Accountant Denise Duffy explained that at the John Curcio Park, the \$10,087 quote also includes putting borders around several of the playground equipment.

According to City Accountant Denise Duffy, at the Briscoe Park, the original quote for them doing everything and bringing the fiber back up to what we need is \$4,313, and that's just replenishing what we have there. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez informed the Board that the last time we did this was in 2014 when we put the playground equipment there. Ms. Duffy explained that for Briscoe Park, if we do it ourselves (our Public Works city workers), we're looking at \$3,208 for 90 cubic yards. She said they would bring in a truck and our guys would have to take care of it, and this would save us \$1,105. She said that these quotes are from the same company that installed all of the playground equipment. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez told the Board that we really need to do this and be able to stay on top of it.

The Board held discussion on this.

Motion by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Garza, for the John Curcio Park, to go with the \$1,443.75 to replenish what we have only under the playground equipment.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

Motion by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Allison, for Briscoe Park, to go with the \$3,208 and have our Public Works city workers do the work, to replenish the fiber mulch in the existing areas only.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

- i. For Public Works to replace the Water Fountain at the Park

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez informed the Board that the water fountain at the Briscoe Park needs to be replaced, by the restrooms, and it needs to be ADA compliant, and we are looking at a cost of \$744. She said that Public Works can put it in.

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Chairman Jennifer Schott inquired about the stone water fountain and Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez said that one has not worked for a while but she will look into it.

Motion by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Garza to have Public Works replace the water fountain at the Briscoe Park, by the restrooms, and for it to be ADA compliant.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

- j. For Public Works to add Bar-B-Que Grills at the Parks

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez told the Board that she had gotten some costs on some bar-b-que grills and passed out some handouts for the Board to review.

Board Member Garza inquired if we had to go with the ones presented. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez said right now all she's gotten is the costs. Board Member Garza asked for everyone to hear him out as he shared his plan. He said that he knows of five welders and if the welders will make him five exact bar-b-que pits like these, and the City installs them, he said he can get them. But he asked that we, in return, put a plaque on each bar-b-que pit with their names to show who donated them. He said this way, we don't even have to mess with the cost. Board Member Garza said he knows for sure that the welders will do this for him. Everyone seemed to like this idea, including Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez. Board Member Garza said he'll start on this tomorrow.

The Board held discussion on the number of grills needed. They decided on three for Briscoe Park and two for the John Curcio Park.

Motion by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Garza to authorize Board Member Garza to contact local welders to build five bar-b-que grills; three (3) for Briscoe Park and two (2) for John Curcio Park and, in return, for the City to put a plaque on each grill with the name of the welder who donated each one.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

The fourth order of business was Informational Items.

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The Board discussed the following:

- Swimming Pool Update – Interim City Administrator/City Secretary explained to the Board that we have contacted Fred Morales about meeting with him. She explained there were problems with scheduling and he never called back. However, she and City Attorney Tom Cate have both run into him several times, and she finally offered to have City Attorney Tom Cate call him, and he was okay with that. She said right now, Tom Cate is doing a title search to see if anything else is tied to the pool.
- Next Board Meeting – It's scheduled for Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, motion was made by Board Member Randall, seconded by Board Member Garza to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes	--	Four
Nays	--	None
Absent	--	One – Board Member Gunn

Motion carried.

Chairman

Secretary