

**Minutes**  
**Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**  
**February 9, 2021**

On this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021, at 6:30 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 the Dr. George S. Woods Community Center, 200 E. Hondo Avenue, Devine, Texas. Notice of said Meeting having been prescribed in Chapter 551, Government Code, and Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated, and the following members being present:

Mary Allison  
Leslie Vail  
Crystal Curiel  
VACANCY – District 1  
VACANCY – District 2

Thus, constituting a quorum.

Personnel present: Dora V. Rodriguez, Interim City Administrator/City Secretary; Tom Cate, City Attorney; and Alma Rios-Flores, Municipal Court Clerk.

Others present: None.

Chairman Vail, presiding, declared the meeting open.

The first order of business was to discuss and consider Approval of Minutes for Meeting on November 19, 2020.

The Board reviewed the minutes.

Motion by Board Member Allison, seconded by Board Member Curiel to approve the minutes for meeting on November 19, 2020.

Ayes	--	Three (With 1 Vacancy in District 1 And District 2)
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The second order of business was to discuss and consider approval to allow Devine Garden Club to place a Plaque under the Arbor Day Tree.

The Board held discussion on where the Desert Willow trees will be planted at both parks. Sandy Stacy, from the Garden Club, will be caring for the trees. The Board discussed wanting a plaque smaller than 11" x 14" under the tree. Board Member Allison mentioned that some parks that she has been to, allow for benches, water fountains, etc. to be placed in memory of someone. She said the City could make money off of this, and it's something we may consider in the future. According to Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez, this would first need to come before the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, and they would then need to make a recommendation to Council.

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Motion by Board Member Allison, seconded by Board Member Curiel to approve allowing the Garden Club to place a Plaque under the Arbor Day Tree.

Ayes	--	Three (With 1 Vacancy in District 1 And District 2)
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The third order of business was to discuss and consider Devine Little League.

Board Member Mary Allison held lengthy discussion on possibly needing to have a joint meeting with the Little League. She said it's a mess and there are too many issues needing attention such as painting, lighting, gates are needed, and the restrooms are filthy; it just needs a lot of TLC. Board Member Curiel brought up several issues of concern such as the concession stand building, press box and wood bleachers needing attention.

Board Member Allison suggested adding motion lights which cost \$85.00 at Walmart, and she said that Alderman Espinosa is asking for gates with locks. She said that the talk around town is that so much money is being put into the Golf Course but nothing is being done for the kids. Chairman Vail mentioned that according to Little League President Aurora Hernandez, they have a work day possibly on Saturday. According to Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez, when they turned in the contract, the only thing they asked for from the City was help in maintaining the fields during their off-season. After the parks are done, we need to see what money we have.

Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez suggested that someone from the Parks Board needs to attend the Little League meetings, and we need to talk to them to find out what they need, and to find out how we can help. Chairman Vail and Board Member Curiel agreed that we also need representation from the Little League at our Park & Recreation Advisory Board meetings so they can present their needs.

Motion by Board Member Allison, seconded by Board Member Curiel to table this item until we get more information.

Ayes	--	Three (With 1 Vacancy in District 1 And District 2)
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The fourth order of business was to discuss and consider creating a Priority List for possible future projects for the Joe E. Briscoe and John Curciò City Parks.

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Board Member Allison held discussion on the priority list that was put together for the Master Park Plan that was accepted a while back when we put aside the pool and splash pad. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez explained to newest Board Member Curiel about the grant/point system, and gave examples of the baseball/softball field.

The Board held lengthy discussion on “pocket playgrounds” in the neighborhoods, walking/nature trails, picnic tables, bicycle trails and also a pavilion at the John Curcio Park.

Board Member Allison inquired about the grass burrs on the park grounds. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez stated that another treatment will be done on March 8, 2021.

Discussion was held on John Curcio Park.

Chairman Vail recommended that we table this item until Board Member Curiel has a chance to look over the Master Park Plan.

Motion by Chairman Vail, seconded by Board Member Allison to table creating a Priority List for possible future projects for the Joe E. Briscoe and John Curcio City Parks until Board Member Curiel has a chance to look over the Master Park Plan.

Ayes	--	Three (With 1 Vacancy in District 1 And District 2)
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The fifth order of business was to discuss and consider vacant seats for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

Chairman Vail stated that she doesn't feel that Council has been successful in getting the seats filled for District 1 and District 2. She feels that it's not fair to the Parks Board that these seats have been empty this long. She inquired if the Board can make a recommendation if they know of someone. According to Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez, yes, they can do this but they need to go to Council because they need to be ones making the recommendation.

Motion by Chairman Vail, seconded by Board Member Allison to move forward with making a recommendation to Council to fill the vacant seats for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

Ayes	--	Three (With 1 Vacancy in District 1 And District 2)
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

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The sixth order of business was to discuss and consider past bids for basketball court and explore future estimates.

Discussion was held that this may help DYSA, as the kids have nowhere to practice. Board Member Curiel would like to see what can be shared, and inquired how this is done. Board Member Allison stated that this is done in-house. According to Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez, there are no contractors, but the City provides the sand.

Board Member Allison explained we would need to go out for bids, and explained the process to Board Member Curiel. City Attorney Tom Cate explained that under state law, the threshold is that for \$50,000 or more, it needs to go out for bids.

Board Member Curiel felt that it's best to revisit this and possibly do just half courts at both city parks. Discussion was held that it may cost more to do this in both parks. Chairman Vail stated that the problem with the John Curcio Park is that it's mostly used at night. Board Member Curiel stated that just because of the area, it doesn't mean that we should neglect it.

Chairman Vail would like to maximize the space that we have so that it doesn't interfere with future plans.

Discussion was held on getting engineers involved. Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez stated that the engineers will work with numbers based on what we want. City Attorney Tom Cate stated that it's pretty neat that the Board came up with the idea.

Motion by Board Member Allison, seconded by Board Member Curiel to move forward with considering past bids for basketball court and explore future estimates.

Ayes	--	Three (With 1 Vacancy in District 1 And District 2)
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

The seventh order of business was Informational Items.

- Meeting dates – Board Member Allison looked at the calendar for the second Tuesdays of the month, and gave the following possible meeting dates:  
March 9, 2021  
April 13, 2021  
May 11, 2021  
June 8, 2021  
July 13, 2021  
August 10, 2021  
September 14, 2021  
October 12, 2021  
November 9, 2021  
December 14, 2021

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According to Interim City Administrator/City Secretary Dora V. Rodriguez, these are okay but after August, it will depend on Council based on the Budget Workshops. The Board was okay with this.

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

Ayes	--	Three (With 1 Vacancy in District 1 And District 2)
Nays	--	None

Motion carried.

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Chairman

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Secretary