



City of Denton

City Hall
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Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board Minutes

After determining that a quorum of the City of Denton, Texas, **Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board** is present, the Chair of the Board thereafter convened into an open meeting on Monday, October 1, 2018, at 6 p.m. in the Civic Center, Denton, Texas.

Present: Frances Punch, Gary Barber, Kent Boring, Alana Presley Taylor, George Ferrie, and David Shuck

Absent: Ben Huttash

Staff present: Gary Packan, Director, Laura Behrens, Assistant Director, Heather Gray, Business Manager, Drew Huffman, Parks Superintendent, Glenn McLain, Park Planner, Maria Denison, Marketing Administrator, Eddie Valdez, Management Analyst, Molly Tampke, Parks Foundation

Chair Punch called the meeting to order.

1. PRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Frances Punch, Kerry Goree, and Ronald Johnson expressed concern with booking events at the same time as the Blues Festival. Items of concern discussed were late notice of multiple events at the same venue, available parking, and security. Ferrie and Shuck commented that communicating to surrounding businesses about planned events would also be good to address available parking. Punch presented a document and photos of issues for staff review and response (See Attached).

2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

A. Consider approval of the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board meeting of September 10, 2018.

Ferrie motioned to approve the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board meeting of September 10, and Barber seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Receive a report from staff, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the design and construction of a median beautification project at the intersection of Eagle and Elm.

Packan explained the first three items on the agenda are funded through a supplemental package and park development funds.

Huffman reviewed the location, design, and cost of the project. Ferrie suggested that the sculpture piece be put out for local artists to complete. Packan confirmed that all art projects go through public art and they work with local artists.

Taylor asked if native plantings can be considered and used to create a natural drainage. Huffman and McLain will look into the options.

Shuck asked if a sidewalk would be included on the Elm St. side of the road. McLain confirmed that it would be.

Boring asked if this project was part of the City's "gateway" projects such as the medallions on the highway. Behrens clarified that the projects were different. The larger gateway projects were initiated by a City LEAN project and overseen by Community Improvement, Economic Development, and the Public Art Committee. Parks is working on the smaller beautification projects along frequently traveled / high visibility areas.

C. Receive a report from staff, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the design and construction of a median beautification project at the intersection of Dallas and Teasley.

Huffman reviewed the location, design, and cost of the project.

Ferrie asked about the street work planned for the intersection and Huffman explained. Streets will be assisting with the project by removing asphalt and installing sidewalk.

Boring asked if this would be a better place for visible signage or art. McLain explained the setback requirement of 45 feet to keep the "visibility triangle" clear from obstructions but there is space for an art piece.

Shuck asked to see ongoing cost for maintaining. Huffman explained the design minimizes maintenance and Heather is working on a template to estimate and track operational costs.

Punch asked if properties would be considered parks. Huffman explained the properties are right-of-ways (ROW) and will continue to be. Parks maintains several ROW's and would add this to the inventory.

Taylor expressed concern that the properties would be improved by the City and then sold. It was explained that as ROW's they will not be sold for private development.

D. Receive a report from staff, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the design and construction of a parking lot in South Lakes Park.

Huffman reviewed the location, design, and cost of the project. Closest parking is currently at McMath Middle School, a private business parking lot, or the main South Lakes parking.

Permeable pavement will be used in place of concrete or asphalt for 13 parking spots closer to the playground. Shuck inquired on the durability of the pavement and staff confirmed it is long lasting material.

Taylor asked for the location of the solar panels included in the design. McLain pointed out they were being utilized at the light poles.

E. Receive an informational report regarding an update on Parks and Recreation's FY2018-2019 Schedule of Fees.

Gray reviewed the changes made to the schedule of fees based on Council direction. Boring asked if vote by Council was unanimous. He expressed concern with losing the "Family 4 Pack". It was explained the discounts are still available for the purchase of multiple family passes. A 30 day pass is also available that provides a great deal for families.

Shuck asked how the profit / loss for Water Works Park (WWP) impacts DISD. Packan stated any profit at WWP is used to offset any deficit of the Natatorium. A loss at WWP is not included in the Natatorium figures so a loss does not affect DISD.

F. Receive an informational report regarding a request by the Board for an update on the Parks Foundation.

Packan provided an update on the Foundation. Tampke distributed the Parks Foundation Fundraising Plan and reviewed the outline. She is working on a new donor prospect database in Excel. This will help identify new donors and reassemble records. She discussed the desire for volunteers to assist with Foundation. She highlighted several of the funding changes between the Foundation and the City and current projects such as the cemetery donation and the dog park. The Foundation is considering a signature fundraising event similar to other non-profits. Future projects the Foundation will continue to support are the inclusive playground at McKenna Park and new spray grounds.

Ferrie asked if the Foundation has looked at working with other non-profits to provide scholarships. Tampke expressed interest in working with any non-profit that would benefit from the scholarships.

G. Receive a report regarding a request by the Board to receive information on the fence pickets located at Eureka 2 Playground.

Behrens reviewed the staff report on the fence pickets located at Eureka Playground.

Huffman addressed Parks will keep inventory and take care of pickets.

3. CONCLUDING ITEMS:

The Board asked that the next agenda include:

- Event management
- Impact of homelessness on the park system
- Samples of artificial turf and permeable pavers

Taylor inquired about the possibility of opening the water park earlier or staying open later in the day to avoid the intense hours of the sun. She also requested someone look at a ladder opening on the playground equipment located at North Lakes Park. The opening at the top of the ladder may create a falling hazard.

Shuck motioned to adjourn the meeting and Taylor seconded.