



# City of Denton

City Hall  
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## Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board Minutes

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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, July 1, 2019, at 6 p.m. in the Civic Center, Denton, Texas.

**Present:** Frances Punch, Alana Presley Taylor, Ben Huttash, David Shuck, Gary Barber, and George Ferrie

**Absent:** Kent Boring

**Staff Present:** Gary Packan, Director, Laura Behrens, Assistant Director, Drew Huffman, Parks Superintendent, Heather Gray, Business Manager, Caroline Seward, Parks Program Area Manager, Maria Denison, Marketing Administrator, and (Eddie) Ferdinand Valdez, Management Analyst, Cathy Avery, Aquatics Manager, Monica Martin, Recreation Coordinator

**Guests:** None

Chair Punch called the meeting to order at 6pm.

### 1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

#### A. Consider approval of the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board Meeting minutes of June 3, 2019.

Chair Punch requests a motion to approve the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board meeting of June 3, 2019. Shuck motioned and Ferrie seconded. Motion passed (6 – 0).

#### B. Consider recommending adoption of the Parks and Recreation Department's (PARD) proposed Schedule of Fees for use of certain park facilities; superseding all prior fees in conflict with such schedule; and providing for severability and an effective date.

Gray reviews the proposed schedule of fees and points out the changes. There was a calculation error for the proposed park contractor fee. The park contractor fee is \$15, not \$25. Additionally, there was a recent update to the special events ordinance adding verbiage for a \$100 refundable deposit. Both changes need to be added in the schedule of fees schedule.

Punch brought up a concern the Blues Festival had regarding special events notification and deadlines. Denison explains the deadline and notification were pertaining to getting the Agenda Information Sheet (AIS) on time. Packan explains the new approval timeline for agenda items which requires approvals for events in advance to meet the deadline date.

Packan reminds the group there is a budget presentation on August 1.

Chair Punch requests a motion recommending adoption of the Parks and Recreation Department's (PARD) proposed changes to the Schedule of Fees. Ferrie motioned and Huttash seconded. Motion passed (6 – 0).

**C. Receive an informational report regarding shade structure options in park facilities.**

Huffman reviews the shade structure options.

Shuck asked about the “two post hip shade structure” on the PowerPoint slide and how the structure is installed. Huffman explains the installation of the structure. Barber asked how long the structure last. Huffman comments the structures can last five to fifteen years depending on the weather and vandalism.

Huttash asked how the structures are replaced. Huffman explains the tarp only gets replaced and discusses the cost to replace the tarp. Huttash asked if tarps get UV treated. Huffman explains the tarps are not UV treated and most tarps are not included UV treated.

Taylor asked if the taller structures get vandalized. Huffman explains the taller structures doesn’t usually get vandalized and provides information the type of structures that do get vandalized.

Shuck asked about the lifecycle of the “square four sided hip roof” on the PowerPoint slide. Huffman explains the lifecycle of that structure is approximately thirty years.

Huttash asked if it makes sense to have shade on the playgrounds to extend the lifespan of the structure. Packan agrees it will extend the life of the playgrounds and gives an example of a playground that has lasted beyond its lifecycle. There was a group discussion about the advantages of having shade for playground structures.

Punch asked if hail damage is included in the shade structure warranty. Huffman comments the warranty does not cover hail and weather damage.

Taylor asked if the shade structure is included in the master plan. Packan explains the process of the master plan and the importance of getting feedback from what people want in the parks.

Huttash asked about the older playground structures having shade. Huffman explains the advantages and the cost of having a custom design shade structure.

Taylor asked if the solar-powered shade structure is expensive and does it pay for itself. Huffman explains he is currently looking for options for solar-powered shade structures. Huttash explains how DME charges back to the grid system, and the payback could vary. Behrens explains the shade structure solar power does not go back to the grid and only powers up devices and lights.

**D. Receive an informational report regarding an Open Space program for the proposed 2019 Bond Program.**

Packan reviews the Open Space program for the proposed 2019 Bond Program.

Shuck asked if there is a time limit for the bonds. Packan explain there is not a time limit for the bonds but will be worth less over time the longer it sits there.

Taylor asked about the trail to lake trail slide if there are concerns for flooding of the trails. Packan comments a lot of the parks are already in the flood plain and explains the cleanup process after a flood.

Punch ask about flood plain insurance. Packan explains how the rate for everyone is lower if there is more parks and City property in the flood plain.

Shuck asked if the algorithm and the evaluations for parcels were weighted more than others. Packan explains how the parcels were weighted. Huffman comments the 10-minute walk and tree canopy were part of the considerations for the evaluations.

**E. The Parks and Recreation Department (PARD) will monitor and conduct a Master Plan exercise to gather input from the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Advisory Board.**

The Parks, Recreation and Beautification Advisory Board members participated in a Parks Master Plan exercise to provide input for the 10-Year Master Plan.

**2. CONCLUDING ITEMS:**

Punch asked about the email that was sent to the Park, Recreation and Beautification Board members comparison of Owsley Park and Patrick Park. Packan explains the background of the email and comparison of the two parks. Punch comments there are community members that have concerns some of the older parks are not getting maintained. Punch also asked if Patrick Park is accessible to the public since it is an HOA Park. Taylor had the same question. Huffman gives an example of an HOA park. Taylor asked if HOA allows the public to visit the park. Shuck clarifies if the City owns the HOA park, the park will be accessible to the public. Packan explains that the park is not a gated community, and 915/916 money is being used for that park.

Punch explains the conversation with community members their concerns regarding some parks being neglected. Behrens explains what the criteria and standards for developers building new parks and must include being open to the public. Punch asked how information is disseminated to the public. Ferrie comments the challenges getting information disseminated. Denison explains the process of disseminating information via social media and play guide.

Ferrie asked about the parking lot situation in Patrick Park, and if it is ADA compliant. Huffman explains Patrick Park is a neighborhood park and should have ADA accessible parking. There was a group discussion regarding future parking standards for neighborhood parks.

Shuck comments we need to stick to the agenda item and advises we should add this in the next Agenda. Punch clarifies it was brought up because of a previous Park, Recreation and Beautification Board meeting.

**Agenda Items:**

- Historical markers and communication plan, Punch
- Discussion of life jackets and signs at the Civic Center pool, Huttash

Punch asked for updates regarding the Naming Policy. Packan comments updates can be provided via email to the Park, Recreation and Beautification Board members when there is more information and updates about the Park Naming Policy.

Taylor comments not to add the playground (ages 5-12) ladder at North Lakes Park in the next agenda since it has been resolved.

Chair Punch requests a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shuck motioned, and Ferrie seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed (6-0). Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.