



RICHMOND

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Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

City Commission Room | 600 Morton Street, Richmond, Texas 77469

Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

The Parks and Recreation Board for the City of Richmond, Texas met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Haas, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Robert Haas
Pat Pittman
Susan Farris
Veronica Torres
Ruben Cortinas
David Pella

Staff in attendance: Terri Vela, City Manager; Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager / Public Works Director; Gary Smith, City Attorney; Jim Whitehead, Assistant Public Works Director; and Brittany Mullings, Public Works Executive Secretary.

Chairman Haas introduced agenda item A2., Recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and Texas Flag. The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and Texas Flag was recited by the Board.

Chairman Haas introduced agenda item A3., Public Comments. He asked if there were any public comments. Hearing no public comments, the agenda item was closed.

Chairman Haas introduced agenda item A4., Elect Parks and Recreation Board officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. The Board elected officers as follows:

Chairman – Robert Haas
Vice-Chair – Veronica Torres
Secretary – Pat Pittman

Chairman Haas introduced consent agenda item A5., Review and consider acting on the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Board member Pittman moved to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Board member Farris. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Chairman Haas introduced consent agenda item A6., Date of next meeting: Wednesday, March 16, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Haas requested the meeting date be moved to Wednesday, March 23, 2022. All Board members were in favor.

Chairman Haas introduced agenda item A7., Monthly Park Board to City Commission. There was no discussion on this item.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A8., Keep Richmond Beautiful (KRB) Committee.

- a) KRB Monthly Report. Ms. Pittman reported the dues for 2022 have been paid.
- b) KRB Notifications, Requests, Projects, Plans, and Others. – Ms. Pittman stated that KRB has started working on the plans for the Spring Shred Event that will be held on April 23, 2022, 9:00 a.m. – noon at City Hall Park. She also mentioned that KRB is working with the Master Gardner's on adding some additional plants for the City Hall Park flower beds.
- c) Membership for KRB. Ms. Pittman stated they currently have three people interested in becoming members.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A9., Access Health update. There was no update given on this item.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A10., General discussion on George Park. Chairman Haas brought up an issue with parking at the park. Mr. Christian explained by expanding the parking, would take up space for a future softball field. Mr. Christian also mentioned the City can develop a cost of additional parking and fencing, then submit it as a budget request. Board members Farris and Pittman visited the park, and they noticed the Lamar Little League sign, as you drive through the entrance gate, is very weathered. It needs to be replaced. Terri Vela, City Manager, mentioned there have been several cows loose on the T-ball fields, recently. The City is currently working with the property owner to get their fence improved. No further discussion.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A11., General discussion on the neighborhood park near Juan Seguin Early Childhood Center. Board members Farris and Pittman visited the park, they noticed the entrance to the park off Collins, is very close to residential homes. Mr. Christian mentioned in previous discussions, there was talk about shared parking with Helping Hands. Mr. Christian briefly discussed what the school board is wanting to keep. The Board members agreed, the layout provided by Chairman Haas made sense as to what the Board would want for the neighborhood park. Board member Farris asked if the basketball pavilion would stay. Mr. Christian stated yes. Board member Pittman asked if the swing set would stay. Mr. Christian stated it would stay until the City had an opportunity to replace it. There was a discussion on the cemetery that is next to one of the entrances to the park. Chairman Haas gave a brief history of the park. Chairman Haas also mentioned access to the park is critical. The Board members are in agreeance they would like to see a walking trail, playground, basketball court, sitting areas throughout the park, and trash cans. Mr. Christian stated we could come back with a draft of the conceptual layout that incorporates all the amenities mentioned and a budget. No further discussion.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A12., General discussion on Monarch butterfly houses. Board members Pittman and Farris walked Wessendorff Park looking for ideas on

where to place the butterfly houses. They believe the best place for the houses would be in the two flower beds at the base of the fountain. Board member Pittman believes the butterflies will have what they need in this area. She also mentioned securing the butterfly house in the flower beds, so the houses don't get disturbed. She mentioned enhancing the flower beds with plants the butterflies are attracted to. Mr. Christian agreed with the Board. No further discussion.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A13., Staff Information Reports. Mr. Christian mentioned the City is getting plans together for planting at the end of March for all the parks. Mr. Whitehead mentioned we are updating the rule sign and taking the information board out in Clay Park, also replacing a BBQ pit at the park. The gazebo at Wessendorff Park has been repainted. He also mentioned all the sprinkler systems have been shut off in case of any freezing, they will be turned back on when the weather gets warmer. Chairman Haas asked if there was a Clay Street Project update. Mr. Christian gave an update on information received from the County. City Manager Vela mentioned the City will be coming to the board for budget requests in the future. No further discussion.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A14., Park visits by Park Board Members. Board member Farris asked if there were any plans for the area where the banners used to be hung in Crawford Park. Mr. Christian stated he would like into it. Board member Torres stated Wessendorff, and George Park looked good. No further discussion.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A15., Future agenda items. Chairman Haas would like an update on the Clay Street Project.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item A16., Excuse from attendance at regular Park and Recreation Board Meeting. Gary Smith, City Attorney gave a brief explanation of this agenda item. Board Member Pella arrived at the meeting at 5:30 p.m. No further discussion.

There being no further business to be brought before the Parks and Recreation Board, Chairman Haas adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Approved



Robert Haas, Chairman
Parks and Recreation Board