



# **RICHMOND**

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## **Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**

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

Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

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The Parks and Recreation Board for the City of Richmond, Texas met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 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 – Chairman  
Veronica Torres – Vice-Chair  
Pat Pittman  
Susan Farris  
Ruben Cortinas  
Robert Hodge

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

Elected Officials in attendance: Mayor Rebecca K. Haas

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 consent agenda item B1., Review and approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. Board Member Farris moved to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Board Member Hodge. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Chairman Haas introduced consent agenda item B2., Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. All Board Members were in favor.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C1., Monthly Park Board Report to City Commission. Chairman Haas presented the Board with the report that was presented to the City Commission.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C2., Keep Richmond Beautiful (KRB) Committee.

- a) KRB Monthly Report. Ms. Pittman reported KRB was been busy planting at City Hall Park and replenishing planters along Morton Street.
- b) KRB Notifications, Requests, Projects, Plans, and Others. Ms. Pittman stated the Spring Shred Event will be on April 15, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at City Hall. There will also be an Electronic Recycling Event on the same day.
- c) Membership for KRB.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C3., General discussion on the proposed neighborhood park near Juan Seguin Early Childhood Center. Mr. Christian stated he and the City Manager met with the School District, they were very receptive. The School District requested that the City provide them with three alternative options. The first option is what was originally presented. The second would include the property adjacent to the cemetery, which contains the old concession stand. As a final option, the walking trail would be included with the property adjacent to the cemetery. The Fort Bend County Mobility Projects will be discussed at tomorrow's Special Scheduled City Commission Meeting, which takes place on April 13, 2023. Funding for the proposed park will be one of the requests to the Commission. We have sent the conceptual plan for the proposed park to the Fort Bend County Commissioner for our area. The Board was asked by Mr. Christian if they were in agreement with the three requests. All Board Members were in favor.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C4., Discuss the proposed trail connection from Golfview Drive to Wildwood Park Road. At this time, Mr. Christian did not have an update to share with the Board.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C5., Review Board Members' suggestions from the parks' needs, priorities, projects, etc. for the updated Parks Master Plan. The current Parks Master Plan contains many great ideas, according to Board Member Torres. In addition, Board Member Torres suggested the addition of a walking trail along the river at George Park. She also suggested a water feature and a butterfly or botanical garden. Adding an additional pavilion to George Park along with expanding the playground would be beneficial, according to Board Member Cortinas. As well as expanding restroom facilities, Board Member Cortinas recommended the addition of playground equipment for Wessendorff Park. Additionally, he recommended a new water fountain shell for Clay Park. Chairman Haas requested that Mr. Christian get with Rosenberg regarding the annual maintenance cost of their splashpad.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C6., Staff Information Reports. Mr. Whitehead informed the Board that baseball season has begun. He received an email regarding bees at George Park. He contacted the Fort Bend County Beekeeper Association and received advice on how to handle the bees. It will be necessary to empty trash cans more frequently. The roof on the pavilion at George Park has been repaired and power washed and the horseshoe pits have been removed. Mr. Whitehead hopes to have a new trash can installed within the next

sixty days. A dead tree will be removed at Wessendorff Park by staff. Mr. Whitehead mentioned that funding was received to install five new benches and two new picnic tables at Clay Park. Additionally, two new trash cans will be added. Mr. Whitehead noted that new water fountains are needed in Clay and Freeman Town Parks. The new fountains will need to be budgeted.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C7., Park visits by Park Board Members. Board Member Farris reported that she had visited all the parks. The benches at Clay Park look nice. There is still trash at Freeman Town Park. At Wessendorff Park, Board Member Pittman stated that she checked the butterfly house and that the flower beds were empty. Board Member Cortinas stated that the columns at the Clay Park pavilions looked scratched, so they may require painting.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C8., Future agenda items. None were discussed.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C9., Excuse from attendance at regular Park and Recreation Board Meeting. None to approve.

There being no further business to be brought before the Parks and Recreation Board, Chairman Haas adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Approved



~~Robert Haas, Chairman~~

Parks and Recreation Board

Bm Veronica Torres, Vice-Chair