



# RICHMOND

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

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

Wednesday, August 16, 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, August 16, 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 – Chair  
Robert Hodge  
Pat Pittman  
Susan Farris  
Ruben Cortinas  
David Pella

Staff in attendance: Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager; Jim Whitehead, Assistant Public Works Director; Gary Smith, City Attorney; and Christine Cappel, Administrative Manager.

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, July 12, 2023. Board Member Pella 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, September 13, 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 will prepare a report for Commission after tonight's meeting.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C2., Keep Richmond Beautiful (KRB) Committee.  
a) KRB Monthly Report. Ms. Pittman stated the weeds from City Hall Park have been

removed, and fresh mulch was added with the assistance of the Parks Department.

- b) KRB Notifications, Requests, Projects, Plans, and Others. The next project they have planned is to update the planters on Morton Street. The next Shred Event will be held on October 21, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. – noon at City Hall Park. Buck slips will be sent out with September water bills.
- c) Membership for KRB. No discussion.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C3., General discussion on the proposed neighborhood park near Juan Seguin Early Childhood Center. Mr. Christian stated that he shared option three, which included the walking trail and the adjacent property by the cemetery, with the school district. Currently, he has not heard back from them. Last month, Mr. Christian met with the Access Health Junior Street Captains and received many useful suggestions. The Board had a general discussion on the budget with Mr. Christian.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C4., General discussion on Decker Park. A general discussion was initiated by Chairman Haas regarding the possibility of the Parks Board acquiring Decker Park and integrating it into Wessendorff Park. Board Member Farris mentioned that area could be used to hold meetings and events.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C5., Staff Information Reports. Mr. Whitehead reported that the pavilions at George and Wessendorff Parks have been pressure washed. At George Park, recycling and trash containers have been installed that was acquired from the HGAC grant. All BBQ grills at the parks have been repainted. It was mentioned by Mr. Christian that the Clay Second Street Project will be on the agenda for Monday's meeting of the City Commission; this project is part of the Mobility Bond and will extend the hike and bike trail from Collins Street to Clay Street and continue to Wessendorff Park. The project will also include flood mitigation measures for Wessendorff Park. Board Member Pittman inquired about the completion of the Morton Street Project. Mr. Christian indicated that the project would be completed within a few weeks.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C6., Park visits by Park Board Members. Board Member Farris explained that she visited all the parks and observed a lot of activity by the Parks Department. It appeared that everything was in good condition despite the drought. Board Member Pittman noted that the Butterfly Garden at Wessendorff Park is thriving. Board Member Cortinas reported that he had visited all of the parks and that they were all well maintained.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C8., Future agenda items. Board Member Farris would like an update on the trail connection from Golfview Drive to Wildwood Park Road, and the sidewalk installation from Morton Street to Wessendorff Park. According to Mr. Christian, this trail connection from Golfview Drive to Wildwood Park Road is not likely to occur in light of the recent easement negotiation. Mr. Christian is hopeful the sidewalk connecting Morton Street to Wessendorff Park will begin construction at the first of October. Chairman Haas would like to keep Decker Park on the agenda at this time.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C9., Excuse from attendance at regular Park and Recreation Board Meeting. Board Member Hodge moved to approve the absence of Vice-Chair Torres. Board Member Pella seconded the motion. The vote for approval was unanimous.

There being no further business to be brought before the Parks and Recreation Board, Chairman Haas adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Approved



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Haas', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Robert Haas, Chairman  
Parks and Recreation Board