



RICHMOND

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Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

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

Wednesday, January 18, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

The Parks and Recreation Board for the City of Richmond, Texas met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 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
David Pella

Staff in attendance: Terri Vela, City Manager; Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager; Jim Whitehead, Assistant Public Works Director; Gary Smith, City Attorney; 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.

Brandt Kail, residing at 6922 Gettysburg Drive, would like to open a dialog regarding the possibility of opening a skatepark in Richmond. He requested to return to speak on this topic next month. He explained that skatepark visits are a way for him to bond with his son. He mentioned that he had conducted some research and that grants were available. He has reached out to the YMCA regarding their skatepark they are demolishing.

Chairman Haas introduced consent agenda item B1., Review and approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Board Member Farris moved to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Board Member Pittman. 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, March 8, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. All Board Members were in favor.

Chairman Haas introduced agenda item C1., Monthly Park Board Report to City Commission. Chairman Haas stated he sent a report to the City Commission in the month of December.

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

- a) KRB Monthly Report. Ms. Pittman briefly explained KRB 2022 Yearly Report to the Board. She indicated all appropriate documentation for 2022 has been sent into KTB.
- b) KRB Notifications, Requests, Projects, Plans, and Others. KRB has been invited by Access Health to speak to their Reaching Richmond Community Collaborative Group. The event will be held on March 6, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. at Access Health. Ms. Pittman informed Mr. Whitehead that the planters at City Hall Park need to be refreshed. She requested their assistance in achieving that goal by March 25, 2023.
- c) Membership for KRB. Ms. Pittman stated she is planning a meeting for members only on February 1, 2023.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C3., General discussion on the proposed neighborhood park near Juan Seguin Early Childhood Center. Mr. Christian mentioned he has received an updated construction cost for the project; this estimate does not include soft costs. As early as next week, he will provide an update on Infrastructure and Capital Projects to the City Commission, and this project will be included in that update. Chairman Haas asked if there had been any updates on the school. Mr. Christian replied there was nothing concrete at this time. We have the estimate and the plans, its just a matter of getting on the school agenda.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C4., General discussion on the possibility of a sidewalk from Morton Street to 4th Street to Preston Street connecting to Wessendorff Park. There was no update.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C5., Staff Information Reports. Mr. Whitehead stated that he had been working on a grant with HGAC regarding recycling and trash cans at George Park, and that we were able to purchase a greater number of trash cans than we had originally requested. The original grant was for ten recycling cans and twenty-five trash cans but was able to obtain forty-one trash cans. He is hoping to have those installed by late spring. Board Member Cortinas suggested putting some of those trash cans on Collins Street by the benches. Board Member Pittman also requested a recycling and trash can be placed at Wessendorff Park. It was explained by Mr. Whitehead that the recycling and trash cans could be placed only at George Park due to the nature of the grant, but we may be able to apply for additional recycling and trash cans in the future. The Parks Department is redoing all the flower beds at the parks. They have completed George and Wessendorff Park at this time. A traffic accident occurred at Freeman Town Park in December, and the monument was damaged. The monument has been repaired and a new light has been installed.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C6., Park visits by Park Board Members. Board Member Farris mentioned she visited all the parks, all looked good. The sign at George Park for Lamar Little League is very deteriorated and an eye sore. Mr. Christian stated we would reach out to Lamar Little League to get that taken care of or taken down. Board Member Torres mentioned she walked the trail at George Park, it looked good. Board Member Pittman said she noticed one of the Butterfly Houses missing at Wessendorff Park in December. Board Member Cortinas reiterated that Lamar Little League at George Park does not look good. He also


mentioned the top of the pavilion is green. Mr. Whitehead explained that the pavilion gets pressure washed twice a year and the last time it was done was in the fall.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C7., Future agenda items. Chairman Haas would like to add a general discussion of a skatepark in Richmond lead by Brandt Kail.

Chairman Haas introduced regular agenda item C8., Excuse from attendance at regular Park and Recreation Board Meeting. There was no motion made. The agenda item was closed.

There being no further business to be brought before the Parks and Recreation Board, Chairman Haas adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

Approved

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

Robert Haas, Chairman
Parks and Recreation Board