



RICHMOND

EST. **TEXAS** 1837

Where History Meets Opportunity

Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes

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

Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

The Parks and Recreation Board for the City of Richmond, Texas met in a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. Vice Chair Torres, called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

Veronica Torres – Vice Chair

Robert Hodge

Pat Pittman

Susan Farris

Ruben Cortinas

Barbara Johnson

David Pella

Staff in attendance: Terri Vela, City Manager; Howard Christian, Assistant City Manager; Jim Whitehead, Assistant Public Works Director; Gary Smith, City Attorney; Jerry Jones, Director of Economic Development; and Christine Cappel, Public Works Administrative Manager.

Vice Chair Torres 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.

Vice Chair Torres introduced agenda item A3., Public Comments. She asked if there were any public comments. Hearing no public comments, the agenda item was closed.

Vice Chair Torres introduced consent agenda item B1., Review and approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022. Board Member Farris moved to approve the meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Board Member Hodge. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Vice Chair Torres introduced consent agenda item B2., Date of next meeting: To be announced. No discussion on this item.

Vice Chair Torres introduced agenda item C1., General discussion on Park user agreements and suggestions on local business advertisements from Jerry Jones; Economic Development

Director. A general discussion was conducted between the Board, Mr. Christian, and Mr. Jones about local business advertising at the park. Mr. Jones also explained that he would conduct some research to see what other cities are doing in our area and whether local business owners are interested in advertising. Mr. Jones expressed concerns regarding sign permits and the possibility of developing a sign policy. In his explanation, Mr. Christian explained that local business owners would not have to pay to advertise at the park, but only have to provide a sign. The aim is to bring awareness to Richmond businesses through advertising at tournaments. As stated by Mr. Christian, the City will develop a draft agreement and contact the organizations for their review. No further discussion.

Vice Chair Torres introduced agenda item C2., Monthly Park Board Report to City Commission. No discussion on this item.

Vice Chair Torres introduced regular agenda item C3., Keep Richmond Beautiful (KRB) Committee.

- a) KRB Monthly Report. KRB set out flags for the Memorial Day and Independence Day weekends. Due to the lack of water and the excessive heat, Morton Street's planters are suffering. They plan to replace and clean up the planters in the fall.
- b) KRB Notifications, Requests, Projects, Plans, and Others.
- c) Membership for KRB. No discussion on this item.

Vice Chair Torres introduced regular agenda item C4., Access Health update. Mr. Christian reminded the Board that at their last meeting they discussed hiring a landscape architect. As part of the discussion with the Board Members, Mr. Christian presented their views on what should be included in the conceptual plan. Board Member Pittman asked if there would be any additional parking. It was mentioned by Mr. Christian that there had been discussions about paving a small grass area next to the basketball pavilion. Furthermore, Ms. Vela stated that Helping Hands desires to partner with the City on the issue of parking. A brief discussion about funding options took place between the Board and Ms. Vela.

Vice Chair Torres introduced regular agenda item C5., General discussion on the proposed neighborhood park near Juan Seguin Early Childhood Center. This item was discussed on the previous agenda item.

Vice Chair Torres introduced regular agenda item C6., Staff Information Reports. Mr. Whitehead indicated that they are still awaiting parts for the water fountain at George Park. Today, the Parks Department removed the old soccer goals from the field. New benches have been included in the budget for replacement at Clay Park. In Wessendorff Park, a fountain is constantly being worked on. He also commented on how nice the butterfly garden looked. Mr. Whitehead stated the girls' softball league sponsored a state tournament at George Park, two weeks ago. City Staff worked over the weekend to keep the restrooms clean, and the trash picked up during the tournament. No further discussion.

Vice Chair Torres introduced regular agenda item C7., Park visits by Park Board Members. Board Member Johnson stated everything looked great at Freeman Town Park, also the planters at City Hall looked pretty. On Saturday, Vice Chair Torres visited Wessendorff Park. She remarked that everything looked clean and well kept. Board Member Pittman reported that she and

Board Member Johnson visited all the parks, and everything appeared to be in excellent condition. In addition, she would like to thank the Parks Department for their hard work. Board Member Cortinas stated he had been to Freeman Town Park; he noticed the base of the water fountain was rusted and the pavilion beams are rusted as well. He also asked if anything was being done with the wasp nest under the pavilion at George Park. Mr. Whitehead stated they are addressed as they see them. No further discussion.

Vice Chair Torres introduced regular agenda item C8., Future agenda items. No requests were presented.

Vice Chair Torres 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, Vice Chair Torres adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Approved



Robert Haas, Chairman
Parks and Recreation Board