



# CITY OF RICHMOND

Parks and Recreation Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

600 Morton Street – City Hall Annex

A Charming Past. A Soaring Future.

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 5:00 P.M.

## PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Parks and Recreation Board (Board) for the City of Richmond, Texas, met in a regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Chair Robert Haas called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. A quorum was present, with the following members in attendance:

1	Vacant	4	Robert Haas	7	Veronica Torres
2	Steve Host	5	Carrie Jackson	8	Robert Hodge
3	Vacant	6	Barbara Johnson	9	Pat Pittman

A1: Robert Haas declared the meeting open at 5:00 pm with a quorum present.

A2: Robert Haas called for public comments; having none closed this item.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

B1: *Review and approve minutes from the April 12, 2017.*

B2: *Monthly Report to the City Commission.*

B3: *Date of next meeting: July 12, 2017.*

Haas noted the next meeting date may not be necessary. No other comments on the Consent Agenda. Motion by Johnson and second by Hodge to approve the consent agenda. Unanimous.

### REGULAR AGENDA:

#### **C-1 Parks Master Plan final draft review and take action. Duet and Hunter Rush.**

Jessica Duet, City Planner stated she will discuss with the City Manager about the timing of the required public hearings and subsequent presentation to the City Commission for their approval.

Hunter Rush, Senior Planner, MHS Planning & Design, LLC, made a presentation of the draft plan centering on citizen input and focus group results. He also noted that the Implementation Schedule is not necessarily in a priority order and can be switched around as needed. He made a few changes since the last version was reviewed:

- While survey and focus group results indicated that Fishing Piers/Dock be # 4 and Swimming Pools be #13 in priorities, the reality and feasibility of developing the Brazos River in Richmond was too difficult due wild nature of the river and its wide swings in stage levels, flow rates, and catastrophic flooding. Public Swimming pools were noted to be costly to build, maintain, and staff. Water features such as spray grounds seem to be a better choice as they make better use of the cost, easier to maintain, and reach more people.

- An addition to the existing park inventory was noted: City Hall Park. Technically, this area has always been a Pocket/Ornamental Park next to City hall.
- George Park: Added 'Replace Existing Restrooms' to #A on Implementation Schedule for that park.

Haas asked for roll call comments.

- Mrs. Jackson asked about the Fields Street property. Haas noted it should not be part of this plan due to the complexity of the acquisition of the land and thought to concentrate on the new park near Seguin School.
- Mr. Hodge, Mrs. Torres, and Mrs. Johnson said they liked the plan and had nothing to add.
- Mr. Host stated he liked the flexibility and ability to use funds as they become available to implement any part of the plan, large or small. He thought Pocket Parks could be a little higher on the priority but Mr. Rush showed neighborhood parks serve more people per dollar spent and taking results from citizen surveys, focus groups, and city staff, Neighborhood Parks ranked ahead in need.
- Mrs. Pittman asked about the mural in Clay Park and fencing in Crawford Park. Mr. Rush explained the Plan was more 'big picture' in scope and smaller details and needs can still be addressed in routine maintenance and improvements as the need arises. She also asked about the location of the proposed new park near North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street & Preston Street? This location was misstated and Mr. Rush will make an adjustment to defining that location making it clearer.
- Haas added that he will be asking that some of the items receive some funding in the next fiscal year 2017-2018 budget and the proposed new park located in north Richmond.

Haas asked for any other comments on the Plan. Hearing none, he asked for a motion. Mrs. Torres made a motion to approve the CITY OF RICHMOND, TEXAS - PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN 2017-2027, with the minor changes as discussed. Mr. Hodge seconded the motion to approve. The vote was unanimous.

## C-2 Staff Information Reports.

Howard Christian reported:

- Wessendorff Park: New water feature, fountain, ready for bid. Current project almost complete. Grass being planted & Hydro-Mulching to be done soon. An emergency phone will be installed in one of the more remote locations. Mrs. Jackson asked about links from the new trails to Fields Street. Those connections are in phase two and will require additional design due to the handicap access requirements.
- Freeman Town Park: Delay due to subgrade in foundation not passing compaction requirements. Question about monument signage status. Haas stated he delayed that to get master plan completed first. Hunter Rush to provide some examples to choose from.

## C-3 Park visits by park board members.

- Haas noted the girls' softball tournament looked very successful, things looked clean, city staff on location keeping things in order. The softball association was charging for access to the softball area of the park which is not allowed. He also noted he thought there may have been a motorhome overnight and suggested some additional signage to prevent that in the future. He reported same to city management on the next business day.

- Pat Pittman asked about the mural in Clay Park and a fence in Crawford Park. Christian said he did not know how to budget for that. Haas suggested board members find volunteers to repaint the mural then submit a rendition, and paint requirements. The fence in Crawford Park was discussed previously noting that the park looked better, an open feel, without a fence. Christian had large rocks placed along the road to delineate the vehicle area. Safety fencing may be considered in the future along the riverbank edge.

C-4 **Adjournment.**

5:48 pm.

Approved:



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Robert Haas, Parks and Recreation Board Chair