



City of Pflugerville

Minutes - Final

Parks and Recreation Commission

Thursday, July 21, 2016

7:00 PM

Pflugerville Recreation Center, 400 Immanuel Rd.

Regular Meeting

Commissioners:

Kimberly Castillo, Member

Christie Crouch, Member

Raul Capetillo, Member

Sahaj Shah, Student Member

Lisa Ely, Member

Jim McDonald, Member

Laura Sager, Member

Scott Langer, Alternate Member

1. Call to Order

Jim McDonald, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Kimberly Castillo, Raul Capetillo, Lisa Ely, Laura Sager, and Christie Crouch were in attendance. Sahaj Shah was absent. Staff attending: James Hemenes, Parks & Recreation Director; Sheila Wiora, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director; LeAnn Resendez, Recreation Center Superintendent; Pamela Cosel, Marketing and Special Events Coordinator; Carly Cox, Parks Admin.

2. Citizens Communication

Oscar Mitchell wanted to thank the Commission for his time serving with them. Mr. Mitchell is now on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

3. Approval of Minutes

- 3A. [2016-5034](#) Discuss and consider action to approve the minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission June 16, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Capetillo made a motion to approve the June 16, 2016 Regular Meeting minutes. Ms. Castillo seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.

4. Discuss Only

- 4A. [2016-5035](#) Director's Updates including information about the Project Status Report, Monthly Departmental Financials, Lake Pflugerville Hydrilla Mowing, Trail Underpass Lighting and Upcoming Special Events.

Mr. McDonald introduced the topic. Mr. Hemenes began the update with the

2014 November Bond Election Projects; 1849 Park is in full design. The Stonehill Park is in full design also with construction documents 90% completed. The permitting process for that park will begin in the next 2 weeks. Highland Park design has also started. The Trails Gaps project is about 50% complete; currently working on the steps from Mountain Creek to the Pfairways Trail as well as some standing water issues on the Pfairways trail brought to Mr. Hemenes' attention by resident Rhonda Gindin. Mr. Hemenes continued to tell the Commission that the Pfennig Park parking lot & restroom project is nearing completion. We are awaiting Oncor to turn on the power to that location. Mr. Hemenes then moved on to speak about the mowing of the hydrilla in Lake Pflugerville. The Lake itself and the hydrilla are both regulated by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). TPWD conducts an annual study of Lake Pflugerville and every year the hydrilla coverage is at 60%. To mow/cut hydrilla in the Lake, a permit is required. We were given a permit that will expire in December 2016. TPWD has a concern that any cuttings not removed/transported properly can cause a spread of the invasive plant to other water sources currently not affected. TPWD also noted that we have a sufficient amount of Carp in the Lake, they just need to mature so they can help keep the hydrilla levels low. Mowing and removing the hydrilla is a very short-term solution, a longer-term management plan needs to be created with the Utilities department, as the Lake is the city's drinking water. Mr. Hemenes then showed the Commissioners a map of where we currently have trail underpasses and which of these underpasses have lighting and which do not;

- Railroad Ave. at Brookhollow – Working.
- Railroad Ave. at Gilleland Creek – No lighting, currently researching.
- Pecan St. at Gilleland Creek – TXDot ROW, currently working to get metered figured out.
- FM 685 at Gilleland Creek – TXDot ROW, recently repaired.
- Immanuel Rd. at Gilleland Creek – No lighting, currently researching.

Upcoming special events – Pfarmers Market is open every Tuesday 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the Green Red Barn in Heritage Park. Music in the Park continues this Friday, July 22, with Choctaw Wildfire. Ms. Cosel also mentioned that the Chili Pfest vendors/cook team applications have been posted online. This year the event is going to be on October 15. Mr. Hemenes also passed around a plaque given to us by the Knights of Columbus for working to combine their Holiday event with the city's and also the Downtown Association's Holiday Stroll. This year the event will be on December 3.

4B. [2016-5037](#)

Staff Report and discussion regarding the Recreation Center & Recreation Programs.

Mr. McDonald introduced the topic. Ms. LeAnn Resendez gave a presentation about the Recreation Center. This included stats on memberships and classes. The Pflugerville Recreation Center opened on April 30, 2000 and is open 99 hours during each week. In 2005, our membership was at 1400 members. In 2016, we have 1350. The average monthly usage is 900 members. Daily use passes, such as single-use walking passes and day passes, are sold at the Recreation Center much more than memberships. We currently offer a total of 64 classes – 36 children, 21 adult, and 7 senior-specific classes. In addition to our classes, we also offer pickleball, volleyball, senior line dance, Senior Activity Center activities (cards, dominos, trips, etc.), and various half-day and full day camps during the summer. When the Recreation Center first opened, we had 42 classes with 12 instructors and 6 staff members. In 2016 we have 62 classes with 5 instructors and 9 staff members. We are needing programmers and a senior program coordinator. Discussion began

on types of new classes added (children vs. adult), how new classes are found, the demographics of the customers using the facility, and how to find instructors to teach different types of classes (bully prevention, outdoor education, etc.). Ms. Resendez added that a programmer is needed because that person will have the time to go out and find these instructors, and plan these extra events/classes that we would like to offer but are unable to. A programmer would be able to add more outdoor programming and education and aquatics programming as well. Space is a constraint also, with this being the city's only recreation center.

5. Discuss and Consider Action

5A. [2016-5036](#)

Discuss and consider action to place items on future Parks & Recreation Commission meeting agendas.

Mr. McDonald made a motion to have a discussion on the Charter Commissions decision to make an amendment to change the Parks and Recreation Commission to an advisory board. Ms. Crouch seconded the motion. Ms. Ely, Ms. Sager, and Ms. Castillo voted yes. Mr. Capetillo voted no. The motion carried.

Mr. McDonald made a motion to have a discussion on the potential annexing of the "colored addition" cemetery located across the street from Pflugerville High School. Mr. Capetillo seconded the motion. Ms. Ely, Ms. Crouch, and Ms. Sager voted yes. Ms. Castillo voted no. The motion carried.

Mr. Capetillo requested a status of the ongoing upkeep of the fishing piers and Lake Pflugerville. Mr. Hemenes will give an update during the Director's Update item at next month's meeting.

6. Adjourn

Ms. Crouch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ely seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Approved as _____ on August 18, 2016.

Christie Crouch, Commission Chair