



City of Pflugerville

Minutes - Final

Parks and Recreation Commission

Thursday, August 18, 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

Christie Crouch, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Laura Sager, Raul Capetillo, Kimberly Castillo, Lisa Ely, Sahaj Shah, Jim McDonald, and Scott Langer were in attendance. Staff attending: James Hemenes, Parks & Recreation Director; Kyle Benedict, Aquatics & Athletics Coordinator; LeAnn Resendez, Recreation Center Superintendent; Trey Fletcher, Assistant City Manager; Carly Cox, Parks Admin.

2. Citizens Communication

No requests to speak to the Commission were received.

3. Approval of Minutes

3A. [2016-5105](#)

Discuss and consider action to approve the minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission July 21, 2016 Regular Meeting.

Mr. Capetillo made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2016 regular meeting. Ms. Castillo seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion carried.

4. Discuss Only

4A. [2016-5106](#)

Director's Updates including information about the Project Status Report, Monthly Departmental Financials, Milkweed Distribution, Piers at Lake Pflugerville, Senior Programs Coordinator, Deutschen Pfest and Upcoming Special Events.

Mr. Hemenes began by informing the Commissioners that 1849 Park is in full design. Stone Hill Park is also in full design with construction documents about 99% completed and Site Development Permits will be submitted for review within the next week. Mr. Hemenes anticipates construction to begin in November. Highland Park design has been started as well. There is continued construction on the Trail Gaps from the November 2014 Bond Election. Right now, crews are working on the bridge section of trail at Oxford & Custers Creek Bend but the recent rainfall is causing some delays. He also added that the Pfennig Park parking lot project is nearing completion; Encor has installed a transformer for the parking lot lighting. Mr. Hemenes then showed photos of the trail constructed at Wuthrich Park that will connect to the Mountain Creek Trail. He also showed photos of the trail connection made in Highland Park and improvements made on the Pfairways Trail – Citizen Ronda Gindin informed the Commission of some water-puddling issues on this trail. Mr. Hemenes also passed out Milkweed seeds to each Commissioner. As part of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge to help make Pflugerville more Monarch-Pfriendly enough Milkweed seeds for 1,000 packets were ordered and have been given out to the public at the weekly Pfarmers Market, the Recreation Center, the Library, City Hall, and also gave packets to some of the schools so they can plant Milkweed in their school's designated nature areas. Mr. Hemenes then gave an update about fishing pier maintenance – all 7 of the fishing piers receive periodic maintenance, which is usually replacement of planks and top rails. During the Winter months more extensive repairs will be completed. Mr. Hemenes also announced that the department has hired a new Seniors Program Coordinated, Corey Abbate. Mr. McDonald asked about the status of the hydrilla maintenance in Lake Pflugerville. Mr. Hemenes responded by saying that mowing was done around the boat ramp and the triathlon course. Mr. Hemenes continued and spoke about the Deutschen Pfest financial report; As of August 17, there is a balance of just under \$37,000 available for their selected project of a Dog Park to be constructed in the area of Pfluger Park. Although, this financial report is not final so the amount of funds available may change. Mr. Hemenes also mentioned that for the Pfun Run 5K there was an increase of 15% for 5K registrants and an increase of 40% for Kids K registrants and we had a total of 454 registrants, which was an overall 18% increase in registration. Upcoming events – Pfarmers Market regular season continues each Tuesday through the end of October from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Green Red Barn in Heritage Park. Music in the Park concert series will continue every other Friday through September 16. August 19 concert was rescheduled for September 9 due to the rainy forecast. The next scheduled Music in the Park event will be a Movie in the Park on September 2, and we will be showing a singalong version of Grease. Chili Pfest vendor and cook-team applications are currently being accepted and the event will be held on Saturday, October 15 from noon – 5 p.m. Pfall Pfest Craft Show applications will be available starting Monday, August 29 and the event will be held on November 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

4B. [2016-5107](#)

Staff Report and discussion regarding Aquatics & Athletics.

Ms. Crouch introduced the topic. Mr. Kyle Benedict gave an end of Summer report to the Commission. Windermere Pool has closed for the Summer season and Mentzer & Gilleland Creek Pools have 3 more weekends of operation before the last day of the season, Labor Day (September 5). This year, Mr. Benedict introduced "Tot Time" at Menzter Pool. This pool would open 1 hour earlier than the normal operating hours to allow for toddlers and

their siblings to visit the pool before the regular opening time of 11 a.m. Over the Summer, there were about 900 visitors for Tot Time alone. Over the course of Summer, there were about 1,300 children from outside camps and day care programs who set up swim times and attended our pools. With Windermere Pool now being a heated pool, we were able to utilize that pool for PfISDH Swim Team practices and other private organization practices. From Memorial Day to end of July 6 swim meets were held at the Gilleland Creek Pool. These swim meets involve a lot of athletes and attendance at these meets can reach up to 700 persons. For our Group Swim Lessons held at Gilleland Creek Pool, we had over 1,700 infants, toddlers, children, and adults participate in our 4-sessions of lessons offered this Summer. Mr. Benedict also told the Commissioners about the Youth Triathlon that's been offered in conjunction with the group who organized the annual Lake Pflugerville Triathlon. The Youth Triathlon is for ages 7-15 and uses a closed circuit course in both Windermere Park and Gilleland Creek Park. The triathlon held in Windermere Park on June 18 had about 50 registrants. The next triathlon will be held in Gilleland Creek Park on September 10 & this will be the 3rd youth event held in this park. The distances the young athletes race are a 25 meter swim, ½ mile bike, and then they run from the Gilleland Creek Pool to the Pfluger Grove Picnic Area and back. The older participants (12+) will do each segment twice. Mr. Benedict also added that his private pool rentals have increased; 39 rentals at Mentzer Pool alone, 6 at Windermere Pool, and 10 at Gilleland Creek Pool. Private party rentals are offered in 2-hour blocks and are available before the pools open to the public, or after the pools have closed to the public (i.e. Mentzer is typically 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.). This season, Mr. Benedict hired 127 seasonal staff members. All 4 life-guarding classes filled, also. Most students who take our classes will be hired by the City of Pflugerville, the others will take their certification elsewhere (another city, or private business). Gilleland Creek Pool will close after Labor Day for about 6-weeks for major construction to be completed. Windermere Pool will be able to accommodate the swim team practices, but we may not be able to offer adult lap-swimming in the evenings that is typically offered in the off-season at Gilleland Creek Pool. Lap swimming will resume at Gilleland Creek Pool on the weekdays once construction is completed. Mr. Benedict is also planning to open Windermere pool in the Spring and offer private swim lessons in March and then group lessons in April and May.

4C. [2016-5108](#)

Discussion regarding historic cemeteries in Pflugerville.

Ms. Crouch introduced the topic. Mr. Hemenes began by showing photos of the historic cemetery located directly behind the property line for the 1849 Park. The land that the cemetery is on will be part of a parkland dedication given to the city from the Carmel Development, who owns the property adjacent to the 1849 Park parkland. This cemetery is a state recognized historic cemetery. Mr. Fletcher then spoke about the other two cemeteries located in Pflugerville city limits; one of which is the Santa Maria cemetery located on the corner of Caldwell Lane and Pecan Street. This cemetery is also a state recognized historic cemetery. The Santa Maria cemetery is privately owned and privately maintained. Directly north of the Santa Maria cemetery is another segregated cemetery, known unofficially as the Colored Addition or Russell Cemetery. The current owner of the land is unknown. Mr. Fletcher did find a deed from 1924 naming 5 individuals as the trustees of the land, but there has been no activity since then indicating who currently owns the land. It's also not clear as to when the most recent burial was. Mr. Fletcher continued to say that there is a procedure that can be followed for a city to take

ownership of the land when there are concerns for public welfare and wellness purposes. Mr. Fletcher also stated that there are not any known concerns currently and that the process to claim ownership of the land has not been started by the city. Mr. Fletcher has also had informal conversations with the PflSD school district about maintaining public access to and the interface with both cemeteries; the school district owns the land immediately west of both cemeteries and the land is currently used as overflow parking for Pflugerville High School. Discussion began on if there is any concern for public welfare with the lack of maintenance for both cemeteries and other cities who have similar situations and what steps they have taken.

5. Discuss and Consider Action

5A. [2016-5109](#)

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

Mr. McDonald made a motion to have a discussion about how to designate more parking spaces as handicap only spaces at the Recreation Center. The motion failed.

Mr. Hemenes announced that Patrick Tate, Parks Operations Supervisor, will give a presentation at the next scheduled monthly meeting. Mr. Hemenes will also have updates concerning new parkland dedications.

6. Adjourn

Mr. McDonald made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Capetillo seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Approved as presented on September 15, 2016.

Christie Crouch, Commission Chair