



Parks Board 2018-2019

Jason Mangum, Director of Parks & Recreation
Randy Troxell, Assistant Director of Parks & Recreation
Kevin Browne, Recreation Superintendent
Barry Hamilton, Parks Superintendent
Pamela Andrews, Board Member
Alan Atwater, Board Member
J.R. Atkins, Board Member
Diane Giltner, Board Member

Don Johnson, Board Member
Thomasine Johnson, Board Member
Adrian Matteucci, Board Member
Sharman McGilbert, Vice-Chair
Brian Merchant, Board Member
Victoria Porter, Board Member
Buddy Snyder, Board Member
Llarance Turner, Chairman

**PARKS BOARD MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2019**

ATTENDEES

Parks Board members in attendance:

Alan Atwater, Diane Giltner, Don Johnson, Adrian Matteucci, Brian Merchant, Buddy Snyder and Chairman Llarance Turner.

Absent were: Pamela Andrews, Victoria Porter, Sharman McGilbert and Thomasine Johnson and J.R. Atkins (all excused).

Staff in attendance: Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Mangum, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation Randy Troxell, Parks Superintendent Barry Hamilton, Recreation Superintendent Kevin Browne, Facility Operations Manager Kyle Frye, First Assistant City Attorney Jamilah Way, and Administrative Assistant Tricia Yurcak.

Others in attendance: Jana McMullen, Sheila Cooper, Cindy Forney, Christy Jones, Mary Ross, Rena Marshall, and Itay Porat.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 7, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Board member Merchant made a motion to approve. Board member Giltner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jana McMullen, of 2103 Quail Valley East Drive, invited the Board to StaMo Ponies' Opening Day at StaMo Sports Complex this Saturday. The final count is approximately seventeen players, and there are sponsors for thirteen of those players. The walk-in parade will begin at 8:00 a.m. and at 8:45 there will be an informal ceremony to recognize the players and business sponsors. The first pitch will be at 9:45, and the teams will begin playing at 10:00 am.

4. CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FOR SHIPMAN'S COVE PARKLAND DEDICATION

Director Mangum presented the agenda item as a development in Park Zone 12. The developer proposed two options. The first option would be to have the area around the detention pond as a parkland dedication. The second option would be to accept the payment in lieu of parkland, for an amount total of \$191,800.

Director Mangum stated there is not currently parkland in that park zone, and staff recommends to accept the developer's proposal to accept the fee in lieu of parkland so that in the future parkland could be purchased.

The development is a total of 274 lots and the parkland dedication would total 2.74 acres of land. Director Mangum stated in the area there is a private park planned for residents which would be maintained by the HOA facility. If the City accepts the parkland dedication, the City would be responsible for the maintenance of the parkland.

Cindy Forney, of 1919 Mossback Circle, approached with Rena Marshall and stated they were the presidents of Newpoint and Creekmont HOAs, respectively.

Ms. Forney asked the Board to consider postponing recommendation for this development. The subject area was identified as a potential community park and preservation of open space. The area is also partially in a 100-year floodplain. Wetlands and drainage infrastructure put both these goals in serious jeopardy.

The Board discussed the proposal options, and that a detention pond did not seem to be sufficient for parkland.

Board member Matteucci made a motion to reject the proposal option of the parkland dedication. Board member Snyder seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

Chairman Turner asked Mr. Itay Porat, a representative of the developer, to ask the developer to consider dedicating at least 1.37 acres of private parkland, and pay 50% cash in lieu of parkland.

Board member Matteucci made a motion to table the recommendation vote and have the developer come back at a later meeting to clarify issues and answer questions. Board member Snyder seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RECOGNIZED SPORTS ASSOCIATION RENEWALS

Facility Operations Manager Frye stated there were two renewal applications. Staff recommended approval for the first applicant, Sta-Mo Pony Baseball, as the organization is in good standing with the City. Board member Snyder made a motion to approve. Board member Matteucci seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

Facility Operations Manager Frye stated the second applicant was Fun Fair Positive Soccer. Staff recommended approval as the organization is in good standing with the City. Board member D. Johnson made a motion to approve. Board member Merchant seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

6. OVERVIEW OF CYCLING TRAIL PROPOSAL AT INDEPENDENCE PARK

Director Mangum introduced the agenda item and introduced Christy Jones, a representative of the Greater Houston Off Road Biking Association (GHORBA). He stated GHORBA is a great group of cyclists who are willing to do the work necessary to have a place to recreate, and he reached out to GHORBA about adding biking trails at Independence Park. Independence Park is a natural resource recreation park with paddling, fishing opportunities and trails, and staff would like to continue with trails at the park.

Ms. Jones provided some background about GHORBA and stated GHORBA has created many trails including at Sam Houston Forest, Memorial Park Conservancy, and Lake Houston Wilderness Trails. She stated Independence Park is a great piece of land, with forested land on the backside of the property, which GHORBA proposes adding a one mile pump track at. There's plenty of land for gravel trails, which are currently very popular, as opposed to cement trails, because they offer more for joggers, bikers and those with knee issues, as well as are cheaper to build and maintain.

7. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FOR MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS AT INDEPENDENCE PARK

Board member Snyder made a motion to recommend approving the proposal. Board member Giltner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **The motion passed.**

8. UPDATE ON SPONSORSHIP POLICY FOR CITY MAINTENANCE

Kevin Browne presented the agenda item and stated the draft of the sponsorship policy was in the agenda packet for review. The Board discussed the draft, including signage between seasons, and City approval of signs. Director Mangum reminded the Board that this item was on the agenda so that the Board would have the opportunity to provide input, and the item was not an action item so there is no need for a vote.

9. STAFF REPORTS

a. *Parks Projects: Assistant Parks & Recreation Director Randy Troxell*

Assistant Director Troxell stated the latest report was in the agenda packet.

b. *Parks Operations: Parks Superintendent Barry Hamilton*

Parks Superintendent Hamilton stated the latest report was in the agenda packet.

c. *Recreation: Recreation Superintendent Kevin Browne*

Recreation Superintendent stated that his report was mistakenly not included in the agenda packet, but that it would be sent to the Board after the meeting. He provided an overview of the upcoming events, including a new Mother and Son Challenge event. He stated that based on the popularity of an archery component at the last Tricks & Treats in the Parke event as part of a partnership with Texas Parks & Wildlife, the Recreation division will be going through an archery training in the next week to become archery guides, and staff is looking into more archery programs in the future.

10. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Director Mangum stated that the recent skatepark grand opening at Community Park was a success and thanked those of the Board who were able to attend.

11. BOARD REPORTS

Chairman Turner stated Parks & Recreation did a great job at the recent meeting for District A residents and skatepark grand opening. He stated that he worked with Administrative Assistant Yurcak, along with Board member D. Johnson in interviewing applicants for the Mayor's Youth Commission scholarship and thanked Administrative Assistant Yurcak with her efforts in coordinating the Mayor's Youth Commission. He invited the Board to the Mayor's Youth Commission Banquet on May 16.

12. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Recommendation for the Shipman's Cove parkland dedication.

13. ADJOURN

With no further items to discuss, Chairman Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.