

Minutes of the River Oaks Parks Board

February 4, 2021

The Council Chambers, 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, TX 76114

Members Present:

David Ballard, Co-Chairman
Bob Jamison, Place 1
JLynn Vandiver, Place 2, Secretary
Joksan Holquin

Staff Present:

Marvin Gregory, City Manager
Gordon Smith, Public Works Director(virtual)
Maria Tueme, Public Works Secretary
Daniel Deason

Visitors Present:

James Myrick
Darren Houk (Mayor Pro-Tem)
Eric and Erika Scalzo(virtual)

Members Absent:

Jimmy Warriner (resigned)
Joe Ashton (excused)

1. Meeting was called to order by David Ballard, Chairman, at 6:30 p.m.
David announced that after 15 years of dedicated service, Jimmy Warriner has resigned his place on the Parks Board. This information will be submitted for the City Council Meeting Agenda for 2/16/2021.
2. Public Testimony:
3. Member Roll Call:
Members, Ballard, Vandiver, Jamison and Holquin.
4. Approve Minutes from the Meeting on January 14, 2021. Chairman Ballard made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Joksan Holquin 2nd the motion. All Aye. Minutes stand approved as written.
5. Report from Council Liaison Joe Ashton.
Mayor Ashton was absent from the Meeting.
6. Erika Scalzo presented a letter with the plan for the Community Garden at Heritage Park. There are already 17 volunteers. Some are not residents of River Oaks, but are willing to help maintain the garden. Two members of the Girl Scout Troop are also willing to help. The question of liability about citizen taking vegetables from the garden was raised. Also, how will the produce be distributed.

A work day needs to be planned in a week or so. Produce such as radishes, onion and lettuce need to be planted soon. Sprinkler heads need to be marked so they won't be affected by digging/planting. Raised beds will need to be created where the asphalt was dumped.

The letter from Erika Scalzo addressed most of these issues.

Chairman Ballard recommend that the plan be presented to the City Council for the 2/26/2020 meeting and Joksan Holquin seconded the motion. All Aye. Motion Carried. The Plan will be presented to Marvin and he will present to the City Council.

Darren Houk pledged to donate compost for the Garden and challenged the Parks Board to match his donation.

7. Discussion of the Special Work Session at Lone Star JR Park on January 23rd. Yellow markers were placed on branches that need to be trimmed and also on trees that need to be removed. Marvin will make a notation in his e-mails to the city that citizens are encouraged send any suggestions or complaints to the city. If none are received, the public works employees will begin to trim and remove trees during pruning season.
8. Discussion and/or action on Alternate Parks Board appointments. Place 3 is vacant and there are also two (2) alternate Board positions still open at this time. James Myrick was nominated for Place 3 by Jlynn Vandiver. David Ballard made the motion to appoint James to Place 3 and Joksan seconded the motion. All Aye. James Myrick was duly elected as a Parks Board member, Place 3.

Erika and Eric Scalzo were encouraged to complete applications for the alternate positions.

10. **Committee Reports:**

Lion's Triangle – The yuccas look good. There are no weeds in the crushed granite. Salvia still needs to be planted. David will contact Lowe's for plant donations. We should also contact Archie's Gardenland.

Wooldridge Park - Looks good. Brick work is still in progress.

BMX Trail – The city keeps the grass mowed. Not sure how much this area is used. What can be done with area is still a topic for discussion.

McGee Park – Well maintained. We have one quote for fencing by the parking lot on Greenbriar. We still need two more quotes by the next Parks Board Meeting.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

At this time, we have about \$52,000 in our account. Approximately \$19,000 is allocated for the salary of the Parks employee and there is approximately \$20,000 in dollar donations in this amount.

There is no status on the baseball season contract this year. The 3 year contract that was signed last year is still in effect.

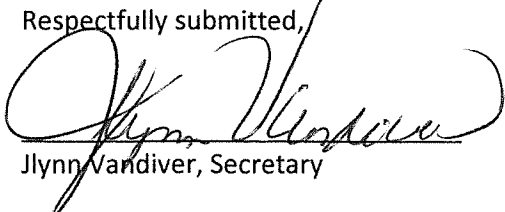
Chairman David Ballard recapped the discussion for the evening.

- a. Thanked Erika and Eric Scalzo for attending the meeting and the proposed plan for the Community Carden.
- b. Task – 2 alternates for the Parks Board need to be appointed. Talk to people, bring names, have people come to next meeting.
- c. Contact Lowe's to donate plants for Lion's Triangle.

12. **ADJOURN:**

David Ballard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Joksan Holquin seconded the motion. All Aye. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Jlynn Vandiver, Secretary

APPROVED:


David Ballard, Chairman