



City of San Marcos

Regular Meeting Minutes Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Monday January 13, 2020 5:30pm Activity Center – Multipurpose Room 501 E Hopkins St San Marcos, Texas

I. Call To Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:42pm on Monday January 13, 2020.

II. Roll Call

Present: Frank Contreras, Eric Gilbertson, Diane Phalen, Maggie Hutchins, Ryan McGillicuddy, Keith Ubben, Josh Simpson, Jordan Buckley

Absent: Richard Shaver,

Excused:

Staff Present: Drew Wells, Bert Stratemann, Jamie Lee Case, Daniel Montemayor, Thane Newman

III. 30 Minute Citizen Comment Period: *Each speaker signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will be called in the order in which they signed-up. Each speaker will be provided up to three minutes to speak.*

Brian Olson spoke about Capes Dam and his efforts involved to preserve Capes Dam for several years. Mr. Olson gave some background of the Capes Dam and quick timeline of past events. Mr. Olson stated in May of 2015 the Parks Board was presented with the Dr. Tom Hardy study and a recommendation to remove Capes Dam was made. Dr. Tom Hardy study was also presented to City Council in June 2015. There was some concern with the Mill Race at that time. Permits were not approved by state and federal agencies due to some concerns. In 2016 City Council made a recommendation to remove the Capes Dam. Several voters mentioned that they may vote differently. Later the Capes Dam and Mill Race are considered a historical landmark.

Layla Knight spoke about disappointment with city council decision not to proceed with Hays County in providing access to an extensive park on the east side for residents. She highly recommends that Park staff consider providing residents with an option on the east side. Ms. Knight supports Thompson Island be renamed Brady Island. Ms. Knight suggested that the Merriman Cabin and Cock House also be considered to be renamed since slavery was a large part of the history. Ms. Knight also supports adequate parks and river access for all residents.

Virginia Conde with the San Marcos River Foundation agrees that the east side does need a park. The San Marcos River Foundation does not support preserving the Capes Dam because of the dam. A mill race is created that diverts water three quarters of a mile. That is very concerning with drought. If Mill Race is turned into a trail then a safe passage from one side of Capes Road to the other side could be an option.

MINUTES

1. Consider approval, by motion, of the December 19, 2019 meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Parks Board Member Diane Phalen, second by Parks Board Josh Simpson to approve the December 19, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried with the following vote:

For: 8- Frank Contreras, Eric Gilbertson, Diane Phalen, Maggie Hutchins, Ryan McGillicuddy, Keith Ubben, Josh Simpson, Jordan Buckley

Against: 0

ACTION ITEMS

2. Hold discussion regarding the FY 2020 proposed fees for memberships, day passes, programs, and activities provided by the Parks and Recreation Department derived from the Cost Recovery Fee Study; and consider approval of a Recommendation Resolution in support of the FY2020 proposed fees for memberships, day passes, programs, and activities provided by the Parks and Recreation Department as identified in Exhibit A

Thane Newman summarized the subcommittee discussion. Non-profit, business, commercial rates were eliminated and moved over to the resident versus non-resident rate to see how revenue was impacted.

Diane Phalen stated that the subcommittee recommended changes to streamline the number of fees. Senior age was increased from 50 to 65 years of age. Activity Center memberships for Senior Spouse were removed and Youth Activity Memberships fees were adjusted to 50% of the Adult membership.

Thane Newman stated that we could consider adjusting the daily pass and streamline the amount of entrance fees for the Activity Center. Current entrance fees are separated by entrance, use of weight room or use of Natatorium.

Josh Simpson stated that we should consider expanding the youth scholarship. Drew Wells stated that we could explore external funding.

A motion was made by Parks Board Jordan Buckley, second by Parks Board Josh Simpson to amend the recommendation to include that city council instructs staff to significantly increase public education about scholarship opportunity for low income youth residents.

For: 8- Frank Contreras, Eric Gilbertson, Diane Phalen, Maggie Hutchins, Ryan McGillicuddy, Keith Ubben, Josh Simpson, Jordan Buckley

Against: 0

A motion was made by Park Board Member Ryan McGillicuddy, second by Parks Board Member Keith Ubben to approve a recommendation resolution of the Parks and Recreation Board of the City of San Marcos, Texas supporting the FY2020 proposed fees for memberships, day passes, programs, and activities, for the parks and recreation department derived from the cost recovery fee study. In addition, it is recommended to pursue financial assistance for low income youth residents in need. Motion carried the following vote:

For: 8- Frank Contreras, Eric Gilbertson, Diane Phalen, Maggie Hutchins, Ryan McGillicuddy, Keith Ubben, Josh Simpson, Jordan Buckley

Against: 0

3. Hold discussion regarding paid parking in River Parks and consider approval of a Recommendation Resolution in support of the implementation of paid parking in river parks.

A motion was made Park Board Member Diane Phalen, second by Parks Board Member Jordan Buckley to amend the recommendation resolution in support of the implementation of paid parking in river parks to include that the City Council provide direction to staff to move forward with the creation of a River Benefit Parking District along with consideration for free or low cost parking for residents and that City Council consider the potential negative impact of adjacent residential neighborhoods. Motion carried the following vote:

For: 8- Frank Contreras, Eric Gilbertson, Diane Phalen, Maggie Hutchins, Ryan McGillicuddy, Keith Ubben, Josh Simpson, Jordan Buckley

Against: 0

A motion was made by Park Board Member Maggie Hutchins, second by Parks Board Member Josh Simpson to approve the recommendation resolution of the Parks and Recreation Board of the City of San Marcos Texas, supporting the creation of a river benefit parking district with the implementation of paid parking within this district.

RECITALS:

Within the Kimly-Horn On-Street Paid Parking Program Implementation Plan the option of having a parking benefit district related to recreational parking resources adjacent to the San Marcos River was recommended.

The implementation of paid parking could provide additional revenue back to the River Benefit District which may provide additional financial resources that would benefit the operations and maintenance of the river parks.

PART 1. It is recommended that the City Council provide direction to staff to move forward with the creation of a River Benefit Parking District with consideration for free or low-cost parking for residents.

PART 2. It is recommended that City Council consider the potential negative impact on adjacent residential neighborhoods

Motion carried the following vote:

For: 8- Frank Contreras, Eric Gilbertson, Diane Phalen, Maggie Hutchins, Ryan McGillicuddy, Keith Ubben, Josh Simpson, Jordan Buckley

Against: 0

DISCUSSION ITEMS/ UPDATE

4. Receive a brief staff update and hold discussion related to Cape's Dam.

Drew Wells stated that a presentation was given to City Council which included a timeline of events and a couple of options. City Council is interested in obtaining an additional study to fully understand the adverse impacts to river and the environment.

Josh Simpson stated his concern with additional spending on studies while the park is still closed to the public.

REPORTS

5. Receive Athletic Division Monthly Report, Youth Services Division Monthly Report, Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Monthly Report, and San Marcos Greenbelt Alliance Volunteer Report.

No questions about monthly reports

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6. Board Members may provide requests for discussion items for a future agenda in accordance with the board's approved bylaws. *No further discussion will be held related to topics proposed until they are posted on a future agenda in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.*

Discussion on possible scholarship opportunities
Update on Capes Dam/ Jo Snyder presentation
Sink Creek Tour
Lions Club Subcommittee update

IV. Question and Answer Session with Press and Public.

This is an opportunity for the Press and Public to ask questions related to items on this agenda.

No questions or answers from Press and Public

V. Adjournment

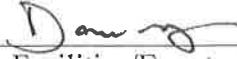
A motion was made by Park Board Member Maggie Hutchins, second by Parks Board Member Jordan Buckley to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried the following vote:

For: 8- Frank Contreras, Eric Gilbertson, Diane Phalen, Maggie Hutchins, Ryan McGillicuddy, Keith Ubben, Josh Simpson, Jordan Buckley

Against: 0



Parks Advisory Board Chairman



Facilities/Events Coordinator

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