



**City of San Marcos
Regular Meeting Minutes
Parks and Recreation Board
January 21, 2021 5:30 pm**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:31pm by Board Chair, Diane Phalen.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present

Jordan Buckley
Frank Contreras
Eric Gilbertson
Ryan McGillicuddy
Diane Phalen
Keith Ubben
Alex Vogt
Kevin White

Board Members Absent

Cherif Gacis

Staff Present

Drew Wells, Director of Parks and Recreation
Jamie Lee Case, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation
Michael Cosentino, City Attorney
Bert Stratemann, Park Operations Manager
Christie Murillo, Administrative Coordinator

III. Citizen Comment Period: Persons wishing to speak during the citizen comment period please submit your written comments to parksinfo@sanmarcostx.gov **no later than 12:00pm on the day of the meeting**. The first 10 comments will be read aloud during the citizen comment portion of the meeting. Comments shall have a time limit of three minutes each. Any threatening, defamatory or other similar comments prohibited by Chapter 2 of the San Marcos City Code will not be read.

- Jamie Lee Case, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, reads 1 written comment
 - Submitted by Marla Johnson in support of the Lions Club lease renewal

MINUTES

1. Consider approval, by motion, of the December 17, 2020 regular meeting minutes:

A motion was made by Alex Vogt, seconded by Kevin White, to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2020 regular meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

For:

8 - Ryan McGillicuddy, Jordan Buckley,
Diane Phalen, Alex Vogt, Kevin White,
Keith Ubben, Eric Gilbertson, Frank
Contreras

DISCUSSION

2. Receive a staff update and hold discussion regarding COVID-19 response in the City's Parks:
 - Assistant Director Case provides the update
 - All public facing counters are currently closed through the end of January
 - This includes Grant Harris, Activity Center and Discovery Center
 - Staff will receive an update in the coming week about any future actions or continuation of closures

3. Receive an update from the Lions Club subcommittee and hold discussion regarding proposed recommendations related to lease between the City of San Marcos and the Lions Club that expires on April 11, 2021:
 - Subcommittee members include: Jordan Buckley, Eric Gilbertson, Keith Ubben
 - Board member Ubben provides update
 - Subcommittee agreed upon 4 "common sense" amendments to the lease:
 1. Lions Club tubing operations close one weekend day and 2 weekdays a week (open 4 days/wk). This will help make it easier for canoers, kayakers, stand up paddle boarders, swimmers to enjoy the river.
 2. The City adjust the rent charged to the Lions Club (currently at ~\$900/mth; looking to increase by an as yet unspecified amount; Lions Club financial information could help inform this new amount)
 3. Lions Club provide financial transparency in the monies generated/monies donated from tubing operations
 4. Lions Club provide one staff member to be in water during operations to pick up litter
 - Board member Gilbertson mentions that subcommittee also discussed possibility of not renewing lease at all and instead not having any commercial tubing operations doing business on that stretch of the river. The portion of the building that is leased could be then repurposed.
 - Board member Ubben mentions there has never been an analysis of the ancillary costs the City incurs because of the tubing operations.
 - Board discusses with City Attorney, Michael Cosentino, the possibility of opening this lease up to a competitive bid process, and if it was currently setup that way. Cosentino says this was not a competitive bid. There is nothing that would prevent the City from entering into the competitive bid process. He also notes that any lease lasting longer than 3 years on city property or for a city facility, City Charter states that the decision go to the voters. The Lions Club lease last went to the voters in 2010. Any lease less than 3 years does not need to go to voters.
 - Board member Ubben suggests a broader discussion occur down the road about either opening this up to a competitive bid process or not having any commercial tubing operations there at all. For the purpose of expediency since the lease will be ending in April, Board member Ubben suggests the 4 amendments for now and then having the continuing discussions about the future of that space later on.
 - Assistant Director Case, as well as City Attorney Michael Cosentino, both note that both parties have to agree to the lease. Lions Club will be able to provide feedback after tonight's meeting. This lease (and the Board's proposed amendments) will go to Council the first meeting in March. Council will have 3 meetings to go over everything. If Lions Club is not amenable to the amendments,

the lease will go to Council as it currently is and it would be up to them to renew on current terms or terminate. If an agreement is reached, the new terms would be put forward to the Council.

- Board member McGillicuddy asks if, while this is being negotiated, a short-term lease to continue services could be agreed upon. City Attorney Cosentino says yes, that is a possibility that can take place to bridge the gap of services.
 - Board agrees to have a special meeting before next regular meeting to discuss Lions Club lease further.
 - Subcommittee will bring back to February meeting an action item with 2 Recommendation Resolutions. One for continuing lease with amendments and one for opening this up to a competitive bid process or discontinuing tubing operations at that facility altogether.
 - Board member Ubben will contact Lions Club again and ask for financial information.
4. Hold discussion regarding trash can placement on trails in natural areas:
- Board member Buckley suggests trash cans be placed under Ranch Road 12 bridge
 - Assistant Director Case informs Board that a “pick up after your pet” education initiative will be taking place in the Parks and Recreation department. Signs are being ordered to be placed along trails and social media will occur as well.
5. Hold discussion regarding the proposed Healthy Streets program:
- City Council placed this on the Sustainability Committee during their recent visioning session

REPORTS

6. Receive the following reports: Park Projects Monthly Report, Athletics Division Monthly Report, Youth Services Division Monthly Report, Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Monthly Report
- Board did not have any questions or comments regarding the reports

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

7. For next regular meeting:
- Recommendation Resolutions regarding Lions Club lease renewal
 - Presentation from Dr. Jason Julian with Texas State
 - Sportsplex update
 - Ordinance subcommittee update

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33pm by Board Chair, Diane Phalen

1/21/21

 2/26/21
Parks and Recreation Board Chair


Staff Liasion

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