



# City of Denton

City Hall  
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## Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board Minutes

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After determining that a quorum of the City of Denton, Texas, **Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board** is present, the Chair of the Board thereafter convened into an open meeting on Monday, August 5, 2019, at 6 p.m. in the Civic Center, Denton, Texas.

**Present:** Frances Punch, Ben Huttash, David Shuck, Kent Boring, and George Ferrie

**Absent:** Gary Barber, and Alana Presley Taylor

**Staff Present:** Gary Packan, Director, Laura Behrens, Assistant Director, Drew Huffman, Parks Superintendent, (Eddie) Ferdinand Valdez, Management Analyst, Cathy Avery, Program Area Manager, Monica Martin, Recreation Supervisor, and Tom Klimko, Aquatics Facility Maintenance Supervisor

**Denton Parks Foundation:** Brooke Moore, Executive Director

**Guests:** Carlotta Harbin

Chair Punch called the meeting to order at 6pm

### 1. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

#### A. Consider approval of the minutes of July 1, 2019.

Punch asked about the naming of a park at the corner of Carnegie Ridge Road and Ridglea Court. Packan explains the current process of naming the park, and how parks were named without the naming process in the past.

Chair Punch requests a motion to approve the Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board meeting of July 1, 2019. Ferrie motioned, and Shuck seconded. Motion passed (5 - 0).

#### B. Consider recommending approval of the adoption of an ordinance, in accordance with Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, of the non-park use of a part of Bowling Green Park for the purpose of installing and maintaining a water line for the Fireside Development utilities project; providing for a notice by the City of Denton of non-park use for installation and maintenance of water transmission lines and reservation of easement in the event of sale of park; and providing an effective date.

Huffman reviewed the Bowling Green Park easement.

Boring asked if the water line is to support the fireside belt. Huffman explains the water line is from Windsor Lane and the other pipeline will help create the required loop.

Punch asked if there was community involvement for the easement and was concerned some of the lands is private property. Huffman explains on the PowerPoint where the pipes run. Packan explains there will be a public hearing about this easement in the future as part of the process to get the easement approved.

Packan explains the process of how the appraisal value is reached. Total value of the land will be requested from the developer, however, final value will be negotiated. Developers will also be required to pay for the appraisal itself.

Chair Punch requests a motion recommending adoption of an ordinance, in accordance with Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, of the non-park use of a part of Bowling Green Park. Boring motioned, and Ferrie seconded. Motion passed (5 – 0).

**C. Receive an informal report regarding requests from Council and the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Board pertaining to hours of operation at the Civic Center Pool (CCP) and Water Works Park (WWP).**

Behrens reviewed the hours of operation at the Civic Center Pool (CCP) and Water Works Park (WWP).

Packan asked Avery about the attendance for the Family Fun Night at the CCP. Avery responds the approximate numbers for both dates (twenty-five (25) in the first date, and fifteen (15) for the second date). Packan also asked what the typical daily attendance is on a Wednesday. Avery clarifies the attendance could vary depending on the season.

Boring asked about the attendance for the Kayak class and if staffing is needed for the program. Martin clarifies the attendance can vary, and an instructor and lifeguard monitor the class. Martin explains the differences between staffing a water park operation and a program. Boring asked about the Splish Splash Storytime program. Martin explains the background of the Splish Splash Storytime program and attendance numbers. There was a brief discussion with Martin and Boring about reassessing other program offerings in replacement for some of the Kayak classes.

Huttash comments that offering extended hours is successful. Avery clarifies how extended hours is successful, but comments rentals will decrease. Behrens explains how some of the evening hours are offered for the benefit of the community. Packan asked about the cost for rental offerings. Avery explains how each cost differs depending on the rental group. Packan explains how every program is being reviewed to balance cost recovery and to benefit the community. Boring asked how after hours are used in the NAT. Avery and Martin explain the NAT is being used by rentals and explains the hours of operations.

Packan reviews the Cost Recovery and asked Avery and Martin how cost recovery was assessed in the WWP and CCP prior to the Cost Recovery Study. Avery and Martin explain how cost recovery was originally 100% of the indirect cost prior to the study. There was a group discussion of indirect and direct cost, and how the Cost Recovery Study will help the department balance between business operation and what's provided as a service to the public.

Boring asked if brainstorming to build revenue can be helpful and possibly included in the next agenda. Klimko describes where most of the revenue is coming from and other revenue streams to offset the cost. There is a group discussion of how the Cost Recovery study will help inform the City Council of assessing the cost of operations and to find the balance between providing service and revenue.

**D. Receive an informal report regarding the rules pertaining to the use of the drop slides at the Civic Center Pool.**

Behrens reviewed the drop slides at the Civic Center Pool.

Huttash has concerns about the rules of a child using a life jacket on the slide. Behrens explains that Martin is providing training for staff monitoring when children are using those amenities.

Shuck asked how lifeguards are being trained to monitor the pool and if wrist bands can be used to identify who can swim in the deep pool. Martin explains how lifeguards are trained and how wrist bands are currently used to identify the swimmers and non-swimmers. Avery explains how children are tested for swimming but can't assess all children due to the amount of people that enter the water park. There was a group discussion of how wrist bands can be effective to identify the swimmers from non-swimmers.

Shuck asked how staff are briefed about safety. Martin explains how staff are briefed safety before their shift and in all locations daily.

Huttash had concerns why life jackets are a safety concern on the slides. Martin explains the safety standards of the slide and the purpose of a life jacket. The life jacket can get caught in the slide injuring the person. Behrens explains further how the life jacket can possibly injure someone when using the slide.

**E. Receive an informal report regarding the Parks and Recreation Department FY 2019-20 Proposed Operating Budget.**

Packan reviewed the Parks and Recreation Department FY 2019-20 Proposed Operating Budget.

Shuck asked why the proposed Recreation Service Fees for FY 2019-20 is less compared to the proposed FY 2018-2019 (In the Recreation Fund Budget highlights PowerPoint slide page 12). Packan explains how the FY 2018-19 is just an estimate based on what the last quarter can possibly bring in. Behrens explains how the Athletics Association payments have impacted the budget.

Punch asked if the beautification nodes were approved. Packan confirms the approval of the beautification nodes.

Shuck asked about the additional cost that was shown on the PowerPoint slide. Packan explains the additional cost shown in the PowerPoint is the supplemental fund.

**F. Receive an informal report regarding the Frederick Douglas Moore Denton County Historical Marker and the department public communication plan summary.**

Behrens reviewed the Frederick Douglas Moore Denton County Historical Marker and the department public communication plan summary.

Punch asked if the community meetings should be included in the public communication plan. Packan explains the different platforms being used for the community meetings. Packan explains that community meetings dissemination of information could be added to the communication plan.

## 2. CONCLUDING ITEMS

Ferrie comments the next Park Board meeting falls in Labor Day and asked if the meeting will be rescheduled. The entire group agreed to move the next Parks, Recreation and Beautification Board meeting to September 9.

Moore provides Denton Parks Foundation updates and dates:

- Dog park campaign official kick-off tomorrow
- Denton Wine Walk, raised money
- Splish Splash Doggie Bash, September 7
- Dig in, September 14, Volunteer opportunities for the Park
- Texas giving day, September 19, goal to raise money for scholarships
- Denton Parks Foundation – Mission, Vision, and Budget

Punch asked Packan for clarification on the Vela dedication date. Packan comments August 31<sup>st</sup> is the date for the grand opening and provides information about the event.

Packan provides information about the Bond Program. Parks got approved for a \$5 million Bond Program.

- There will be a separate future City Council agenda for land acquisition.

Huttash had concerns the approval for Parks is only \$5 million and should be more to be effective for future growth opportunities.

Chair Punch requests a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shuck motioned, and Ferrie seconded. Motioned passed (5 - 0). Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.